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## THIRD ANNUAL AWARDS ISSUE

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**WRESTLING EYE**
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Cover Art **Jim Whiting**

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# BARRY WINDHAM

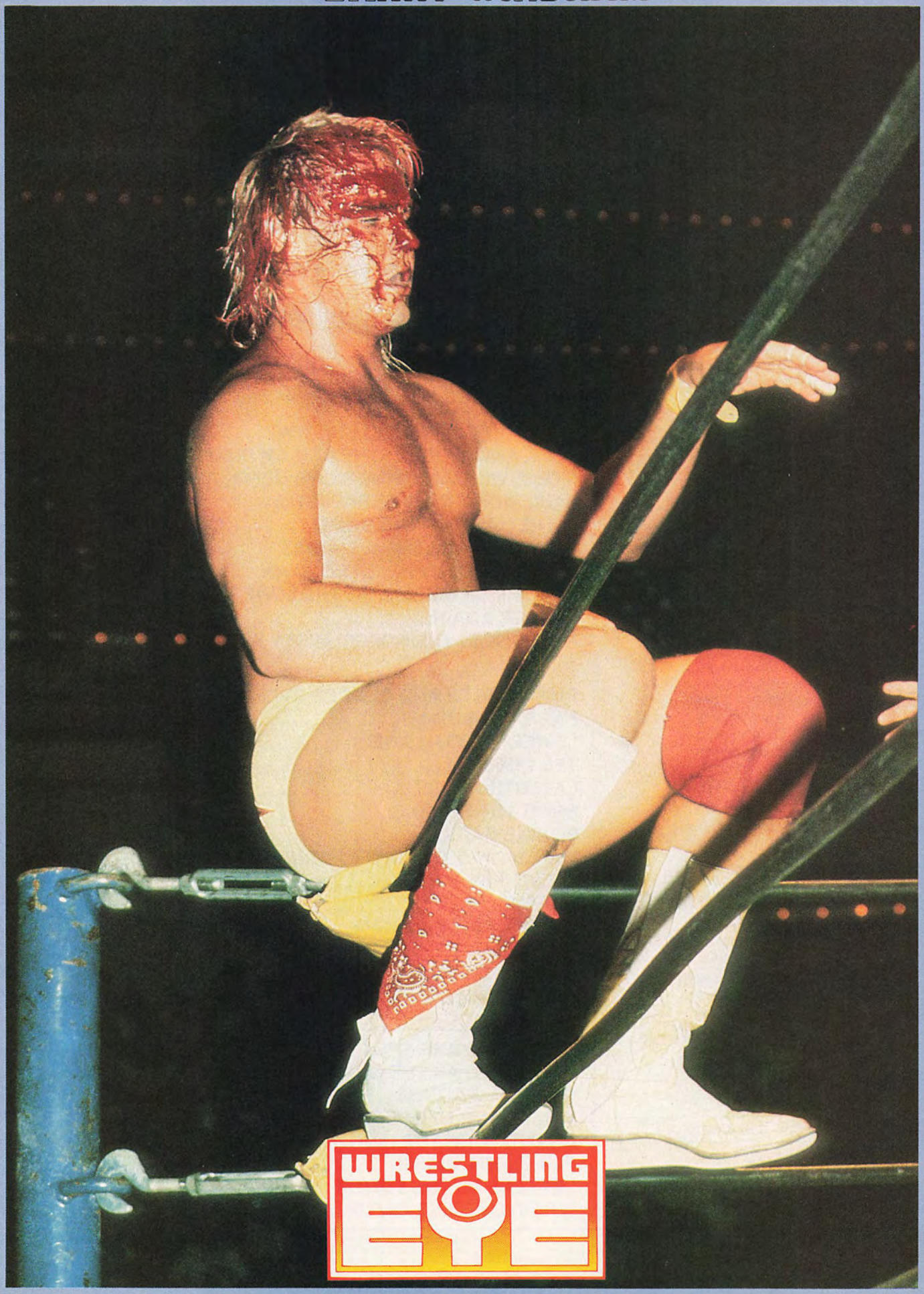



PHOTO BY STEVE BEYER

# RICK MARTEL AND GEORGE STEELE

BY B.L. HARBISON

# "SWEET" STAN LANE

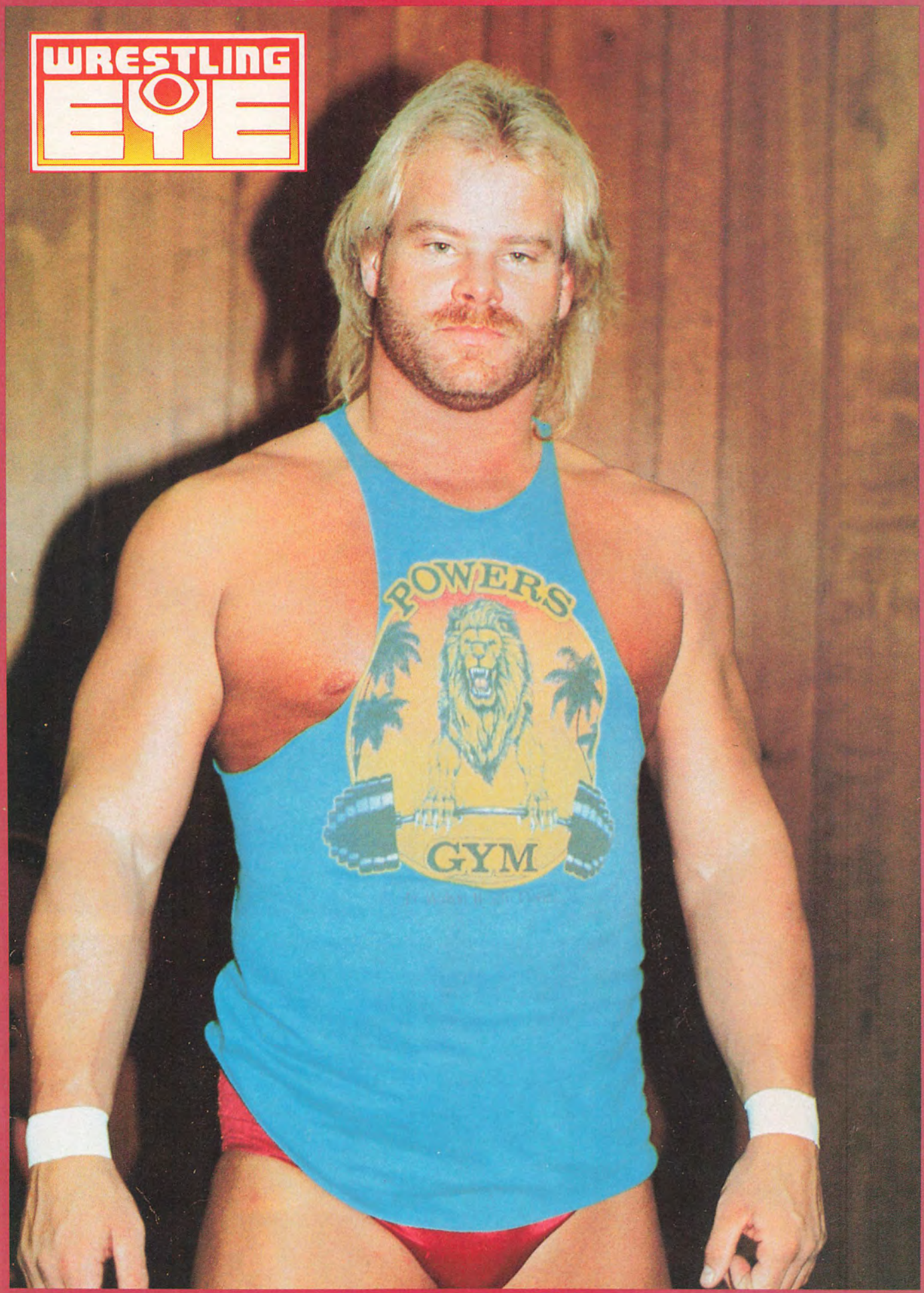



PHOTO BY CARL CARGO

# From the Editor's Desk....

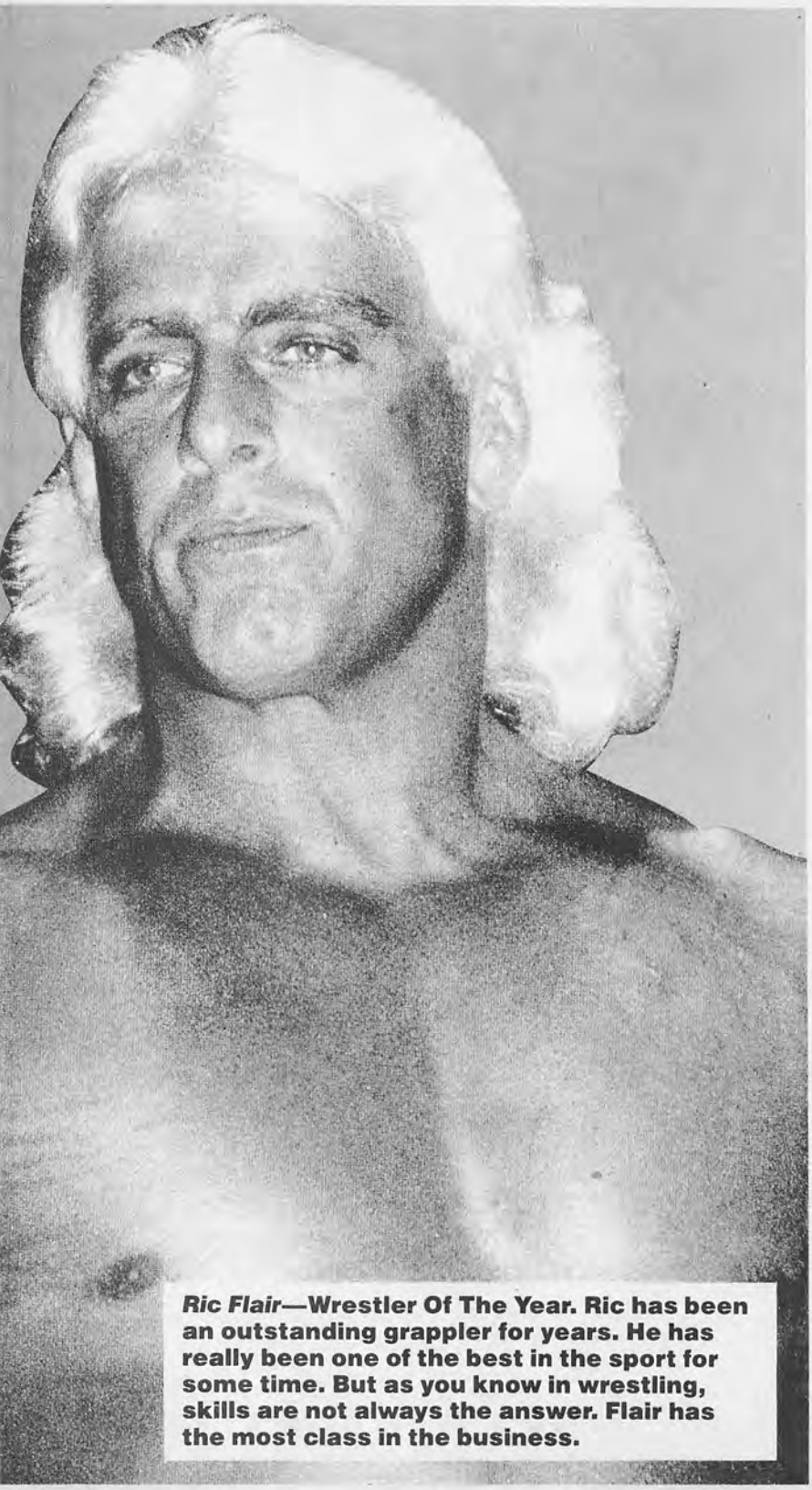
## "ARE THE GIRLS AS GOOD THE GUYS?"

Pro Wrestling, unlike most other sport is an equal opportunity employer. Both men and women are competitive in pro wrestling. There are of course more men competing than women. Probably there are three time as many men as there are women in the sport. Why? Certainly women wrestlers are in demand, but have been in the past regarded to as a 'novelty', such as 'midget wrestling' is. Should there be more female competition in the sport? There should be. Women are as competent in the ring as men. Also, women's wrestling is enjoying a resurgance right now. So, the time is right.

Fans, please feel free to write in, and tell us your opinion.

See ya' at the matches,
Carmine DeSpirito
Editor

# WRESTLING EYE'S THIRD ANNUAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE—1987



***Ric Flair*—Wrestler Of The Year. Ric has been an outstanding grappler for years. He has really been one of the best in the sport for some time. But as you know in wrestling, skills are not always the answer. Flair has the most class in the business.**

***Wrestler Of The Year***
***The Nature Boy Ric Flair***

1. **Hulk Hogan**
2. **Barry Windham**
3. **Randy Savage**
4. **Ricky Steamboat**
5. **Lex Luger**
6. **Tully Blanchard**
7. **Brutus Beefcake**
8. **Terry Taylor**
9. **Ted DiBiase**
10. **Nikita Koloff**

***Match Of The Year***
**Rick Flair vs. Barry Windham**
**Crockett Cup**

1. **Randy Savage vs. Ricky Steamboat Wrestlemania III**
2. **Tully Blanchard & Arn Anderson vs. The Rock 'n' Roll Express—Charlotte, N.C.**
3. **Chris Adams vs. Barry Windham Houston**
4. **Curt Hennig vs. Nick Bockwinkel Las Vegas**
5. **Ron Garvin vs. Ric Flair—Detroit**

***Ric Flair verses Barry Windham*—This match was the best. It went to around the one hour limit, and was a classic encounter to see.**

Coverage in the AUG 87 ***WRESTLING EYE***

***Tag Team Of the Year***
***The Rock 'n' Roll Express—***
***Ricky Morton & Robert Gibson***

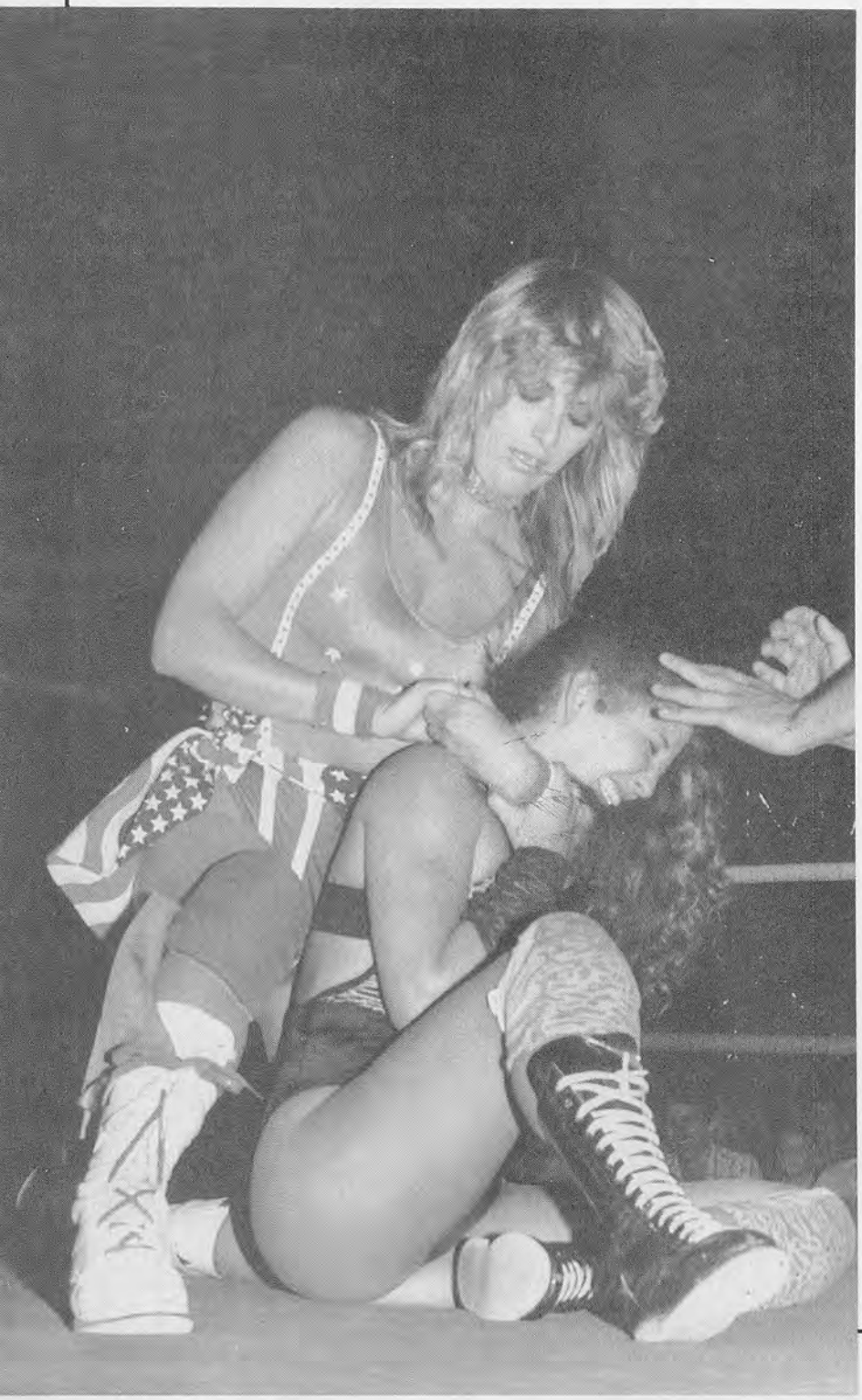
***The Rock 'n' Roll Express*—Truly, 1987 has been the year for the Rock 'n' Roll Express. They've been able to hold on to the N.W.A. world tag team straps in the N.W.A. where the toughest tag team competition in the world is available.**

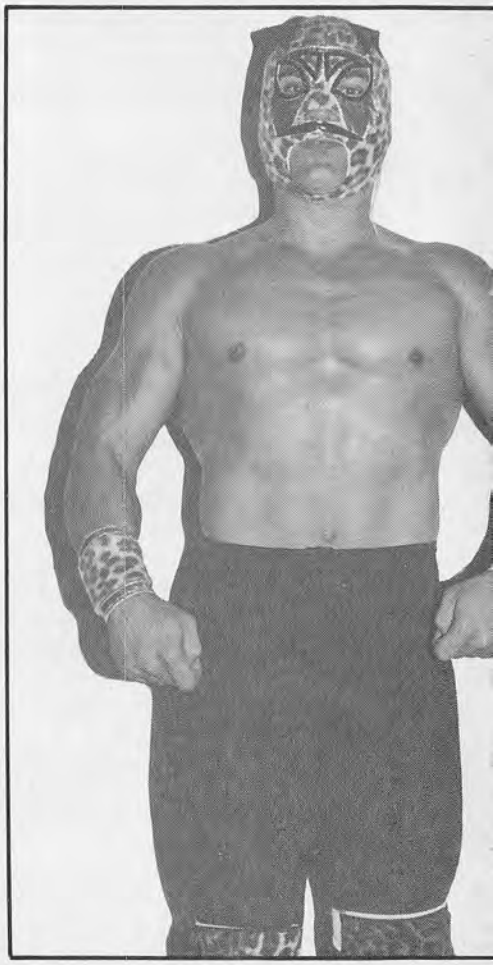
1. **The Road Warriors**
2. **The Midnight Express—Bobby Eaton & Stan Lane**
3. **The Hart Foundation**
4. **Tom Zenk and Rick Martel**
5. **The Midnight Rockers—Marty Janetty & Sean Michaels**
6. **Arn Anderson & Tully Blanchard**
7. **Dusty Rhodes & Nikita Koloff**
8. **Chris Champion & Sean Royal**
9. **The Fantastics—Tommy Rogers & Bobby Fulton**
10. **Tim Horner & Brad Armstrong**

***Woman Wrestler Of The Year***
***Misty Blue Simmes***

***Misty Blue Simmes*—Truly the best woman wrestler in the world. She hasn't proved her ultimate capabilities yet by not signing with a major organization.**

1. **Sherri Martel**
2. **Wendi Richter**
3. **Linda Dallas**
4. **The Fabulous Moolah**
5. **Velvet McIntyre**





***Baddest Man (Men) Of the Year***
***The Road Warriors***

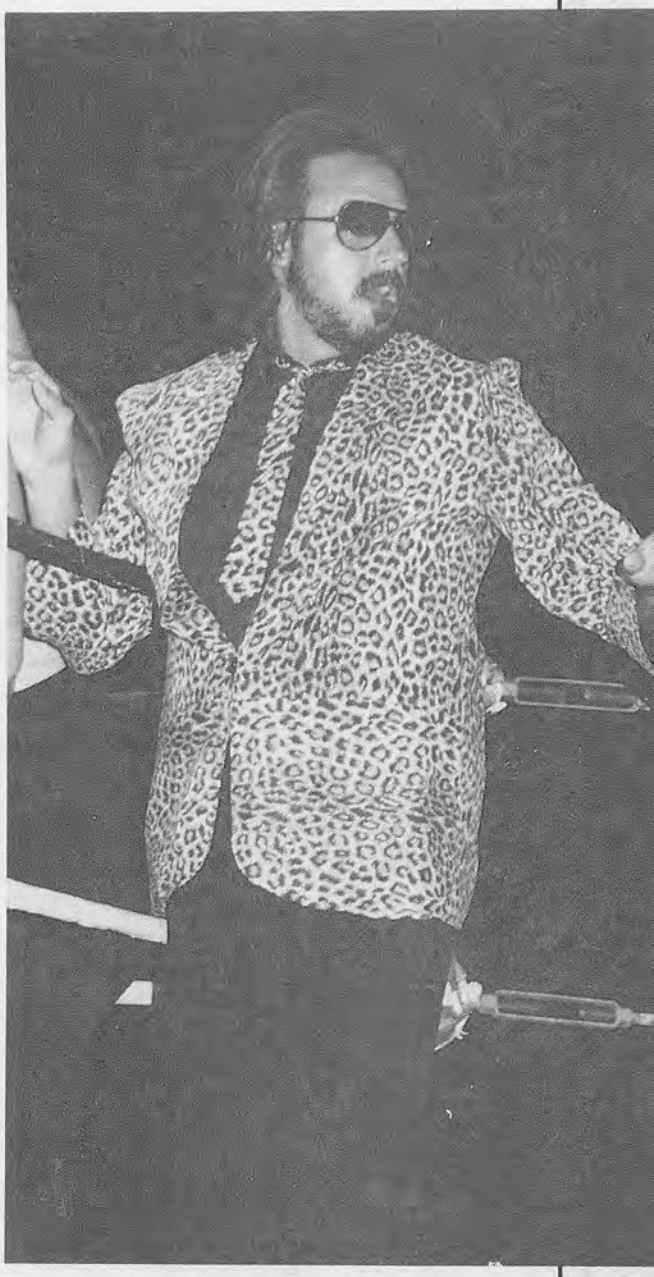
1. **Dr. 'D' David Shultz**
2. **Bruiser Brody**
3. **Lex Luger**
4. **Nikita Koloff**
5. **Andre the Giant**
6. **Abdullah the Butcher**
7. **King Kong Bundy**
8. **One Man Gang**
9. **Dr. Death Steve Williams**
10. **Hacksaw Jim Duggan**

***Independent Wrestler Of The Year***
***The Cheetah Kid***

***The Cheetah Kid*—The Cheetah Kid in the past year, has wrestled the likes of David Shultz, Adrian Street, and Stan Hansen to virtual stand stills.**

1. **Dr. 'D' David Shultz**
2. **Bruiser Brody**
3. **D.C. Drake**
4. **Johnny Rodz**
5. **Abdullah the Butcher**

***The Road Warriors*—A tie. Animal and Hawk two of the most devastating men in the sport, have been undefeated for two years. This makes the Road Warriors the Baddest Men Of The Year. Oh, yes fans, Dr. 'D' he may not be affiliated with any of the major organizations but Shultz has also been undefeated in three years.**



***Manager Of the Year***
***Jimmy Hart***

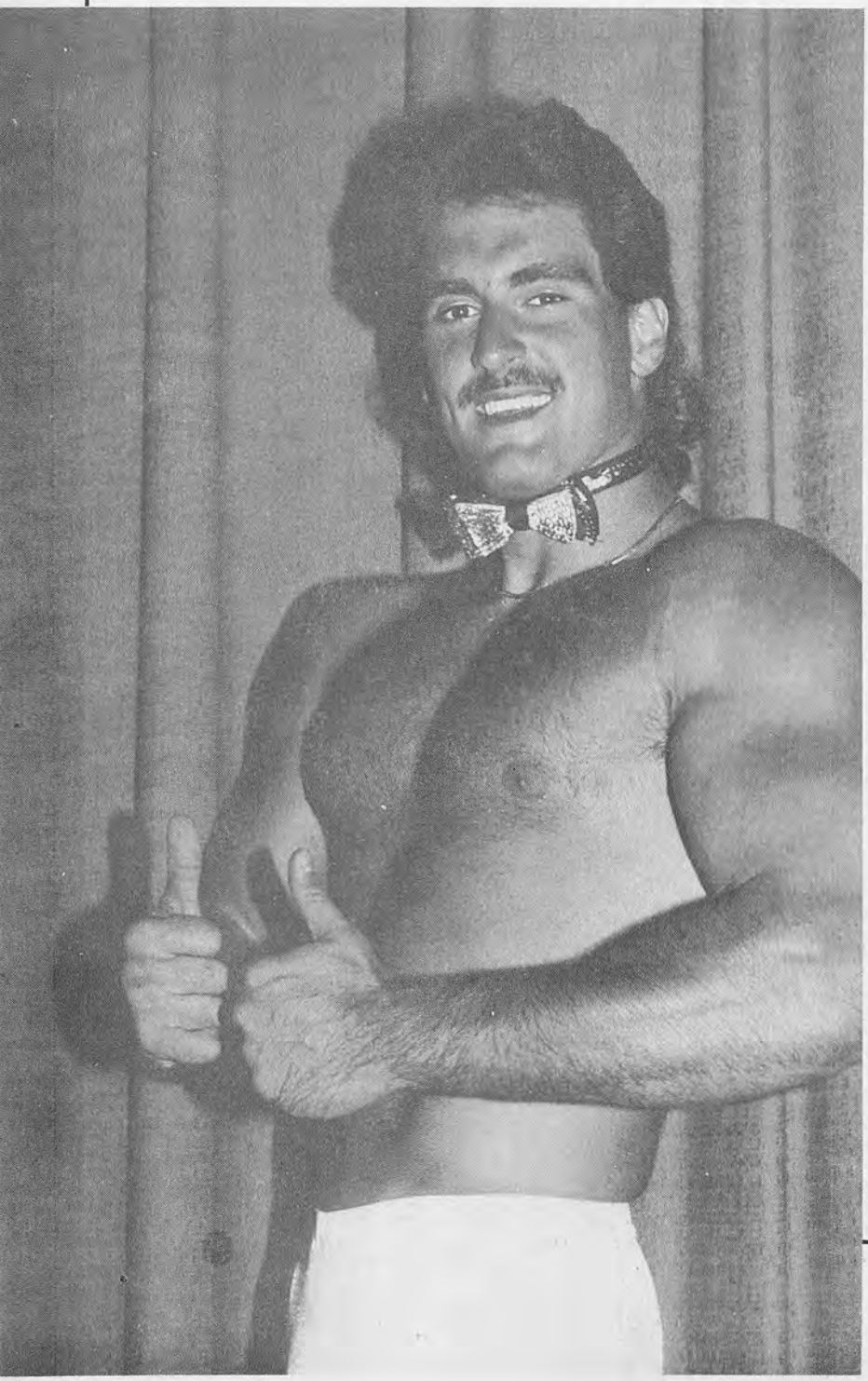
***Jimmy Hart*—Really he is the best. In the W.W.F., has the most impressive army, in wrestling.**

1. **J.J. Dillon**
2. **Bobby Heenan**
3. **Jim Cornette**
4. **Paul Ellering**
5. **Slick**

***Independent Rookie Of The Year***
***Tom 'Chippendale' Brandi***

***Tom 'Chippendale' Brandi*—Tom has the looks and skills to definitely one day be a superstar. Tom is deserved of this award.**

1. **Tom 'Mr. N.J.' Cairo**
2. **Nature Boy Brian Walsh**
3. **Fabulous Phil Apollo**
4. **Steve Strong**
5. **The Twin Towers**



***Valet Of The Year***
***Precious***

1. **Miss Linda**
2. **Missy Hyatt**
3. **Dark Journey**
4. **Virgil**
5. **Medusa Miceli**

### *Independent Manager Of The Year— Wonderful Wendall Weatherbee*

***Wonderful Wendall Weatherbee*—Wendall in the past year has managed such stars as Doug Somers, the Missing Link, and David Shultz. The top independent manager of the year.**

1. **Paul E. Dangerously**
2. **Damien Kane**
3. **Sheik Ali Abdullah**
4. **Eddie Creathman**
5. **Genie Berete (P.O.W.W.)**

### *Rookie Wrestler Of The Year— Bam Bam Bigelow*

***Bam Bam Bigelow*—Certainly anyone that knows anything about wrestling, will tell you Bigelow's a lousy wrestler. He did though, climb to the top fast.**

1. **Steve Cox**
2. **Shane Douglas**
3. **Shawn Simpson**
4. **Danny Davis**
5. **Mitch Snow**

***Precious*—Valet to Jimmy Garvin, one of the major stars of the wrestling world, and wants to see her man reach the top.**

### *Independent Promotion Of The Year— The National Wrestling Federation*

***The National Wrestling Federation*—The best because the talent ranges from the Fantastics to Bruiser Brody, and Sgt. Slaughter to Stan Hansen. The N.W.F.'s talent roster is truly impressive.**

1. **United States Wrestling Association**
2. **International Wrestling Federation**
3. **Empire Wrestling Federation**
4. **Bodyslam Inc.**
5. **Eastern Wrestling Alliance**

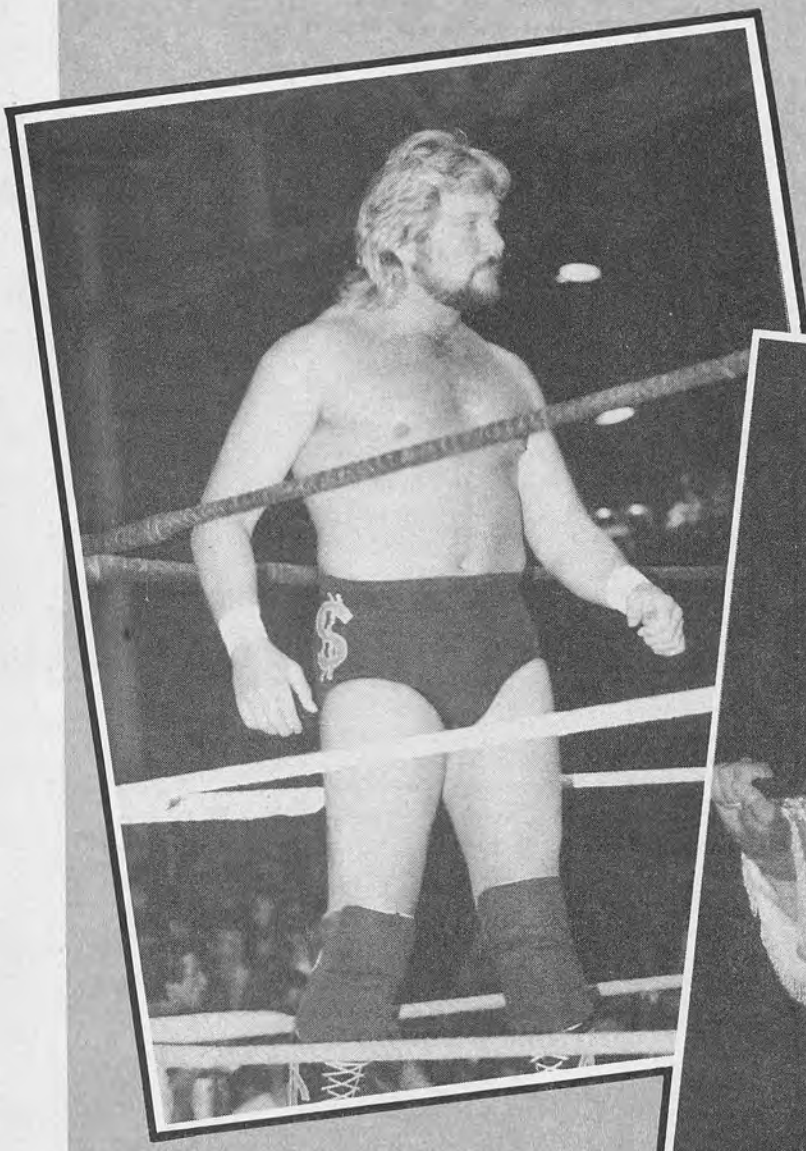
### *Promotion Of The Year— The National Wrestling Alliance*

***The National Wrestling Alliance*—Without a doubt, the N.W.A. is the best. During the past year the N.W.A. has had some of the best match ups in the sport's history. Flair-Garvin, Flair-Windham, all classics.**

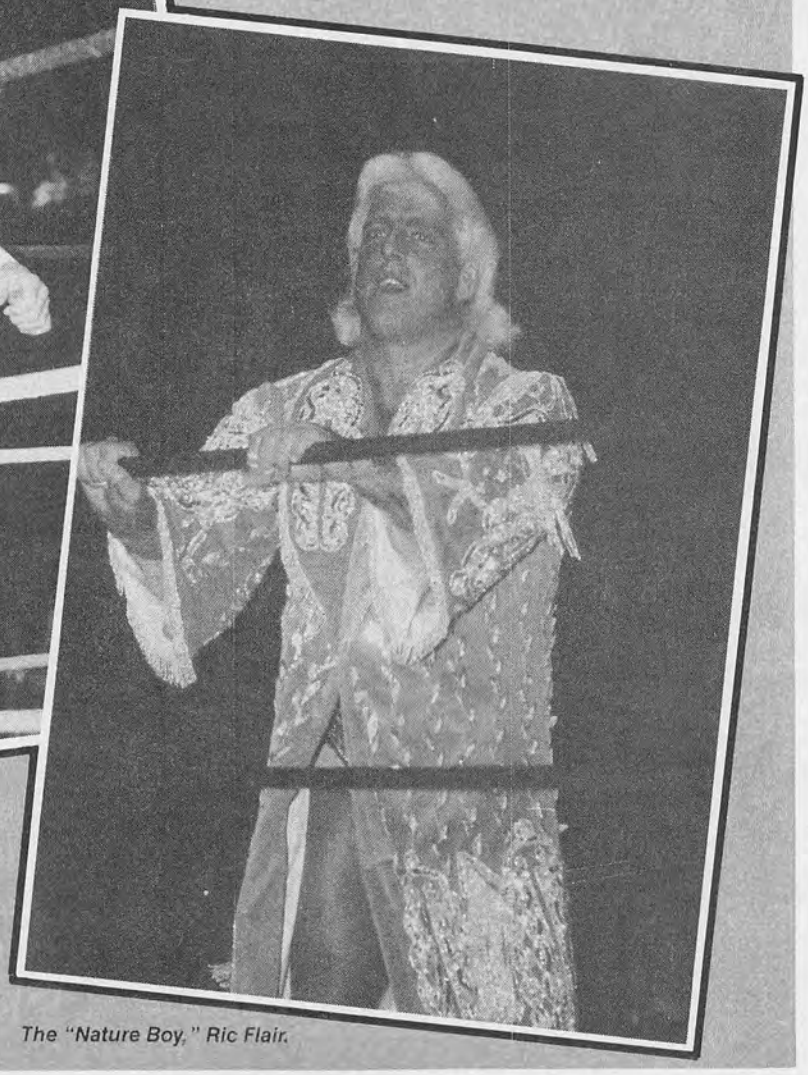
1. **World Wrestling Federation**
2. **Stampede Wrestling**
3. **Universal Wrestling Federation**
4. **New Japan Wrestling**
5. **American Wrestling Association**

# RIC FLAIR AND TED DIBIASE

BY DON LAIBLE



Ted DiBiase, the "Million Dollar Man"
(photo by Joe Pinkens)



The "Nature Boy," Ric Flair.

## WHO'S REALLY WRESTLING'S MILLION DOLLAR MAN?

When describing rivalries and feuds, which often turn into blood baths and drag out for months or even years at a time, one usually associates them with individuals going after one another. For the most part that has been the case in wrestling. Managers, tag teams and agents all have had ill feelings on occasion with others in the sport. However, with the intense competitive feelings going on between wrestling's two big promotions, the World Wrestling Federation and the National Wrestling Alliance, (up until a few years back the WWF was a member of the NWA organization), their battle with each other has gone beyond the mat surface. Feelings between the WWF and NWA are now in many ways brought public through Ric 'Nature Boy' Flair and Ted 'The Million Dollar Man' DiBiase.

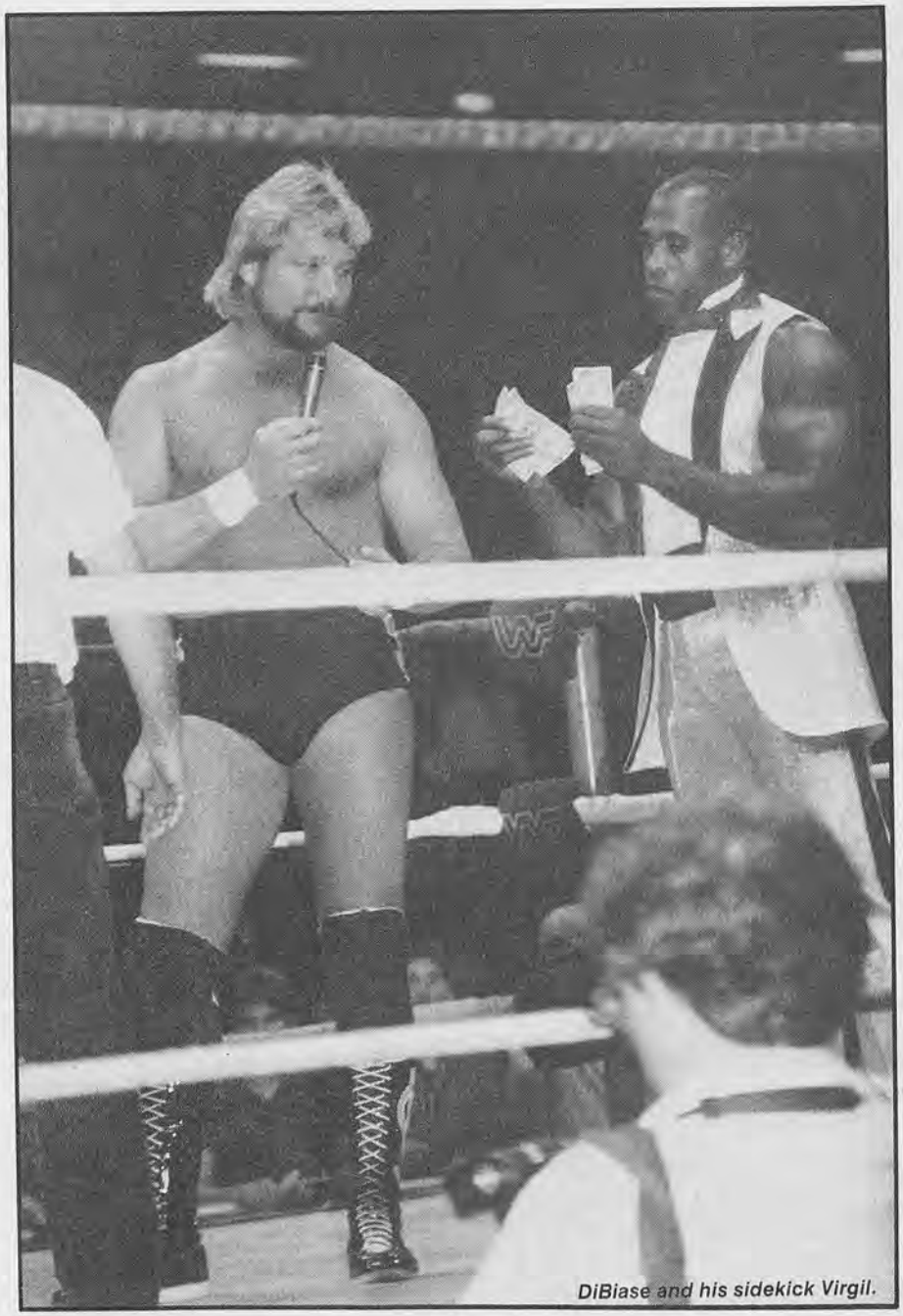
For the better part of the past five years 'The Nature Boy' has been the crown jewel of the NWA. Flair has consistently seen his legion of fans grow by leaps and bounds. Although he behaves as a villain, the cocky, arrogant, well groomed style, he reflects has caught the fancy of the wrestling world. His long golden locks, the well defined physique he displays are only a fraction of what makes 'The Nature Boy' so appealing.

Flair has never been the type of person to hide his feelings and wealth when it comes down to his position in the scope of the wrestling world. Week after week on national television Flair displays the materialistic gains of his wealth and power. The finest suits, shoes, jewelry and wads of one hundred dollar bills are constantly being flashed to the audience. Flair, a native of Minneapolis, prides himself on always jetting and limoing everywhere. Flair has been a success and continues to ride the wave of power due to his box office appeal and immense ring knowledge. Most experts and fans are in agreement when stating that Flair is one of the best mat technicians of the world today. His athletic skill is something he is extremely proud of and during each match he only adds credibility to his claim of greatness. Without a doubt, Flair is the man the fans love to hate.

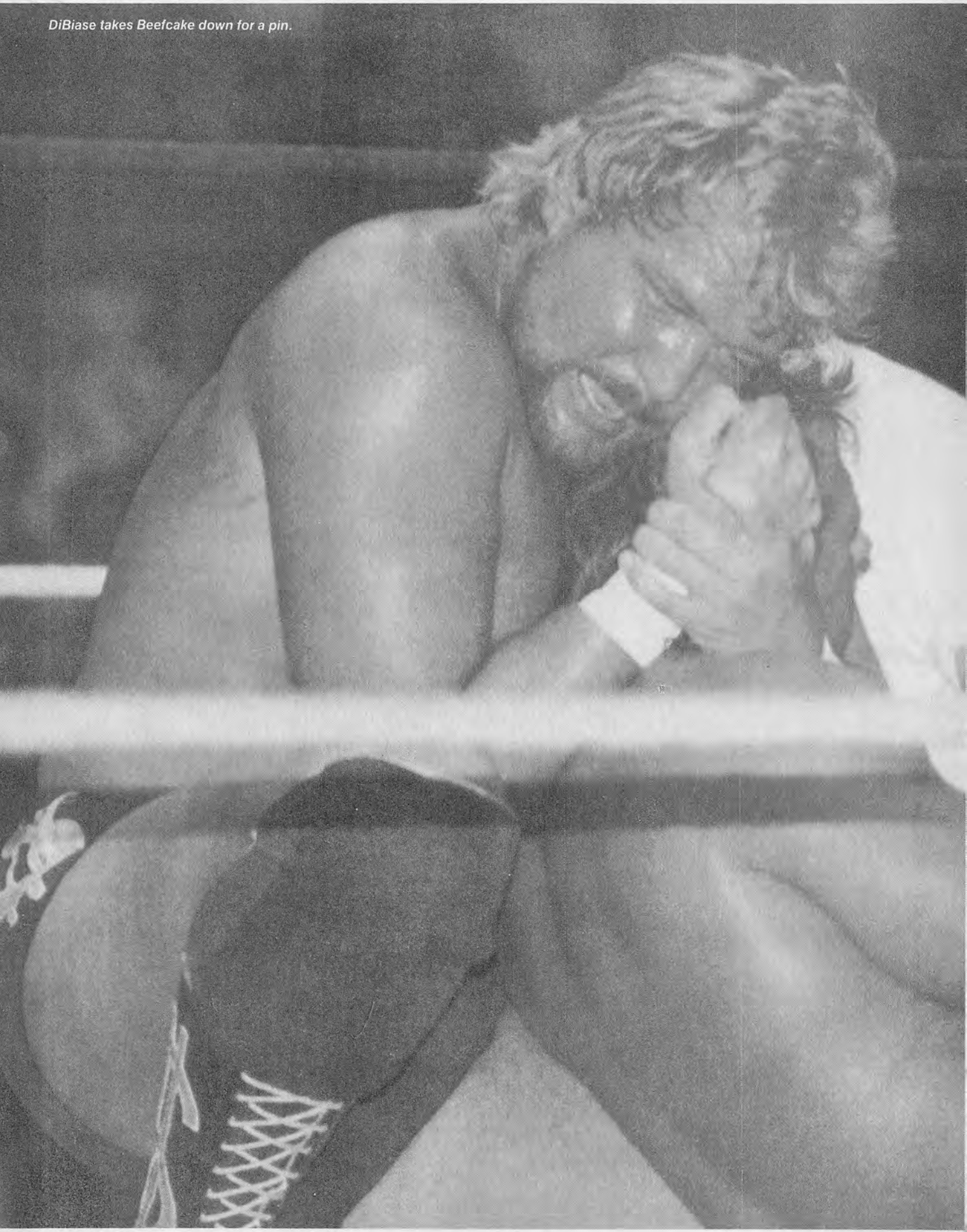
Most recently, Vince McMahon has attempted to even the score with his main counterpart, the NWA. When adding Ted DiBiase to his 'stable of stars,' Mr. McMahon apparently wanted his own Ric Flair. Enter the 'Million Dollar Man'—Ted DiBiase and his bodyguard Virgil. Now, right there, Virgil is the first tip off to McMahon's alleged move to play 'hard ball' with the NWA. Virgil, whose real name is Mike Jones, is a very muscular man who has enjoyed a small amount of success as a wrestler under the ring name of 'Soul Train' Jones. Almost every fan of wrestling today is aware that Dusty Rhodes (an NWA leading figure and main eventer) has the given name of Virgil Runnels.

When watching Virgil portray a stooge—like chauffeur and all around 'go-for' for the 'Million Dollar Man,' who plays the role of Flair almost to his spoken words on television, it isn't too difficult to see the attempt of making DiBiase out to be the rich, sassy, playboy that Flair has been for years. In skills, there's no denying that if the WWF unleashed DiBiase from his poorly portrayed role as a Flair clone, DiBiase easily falls into the same category of greatness.

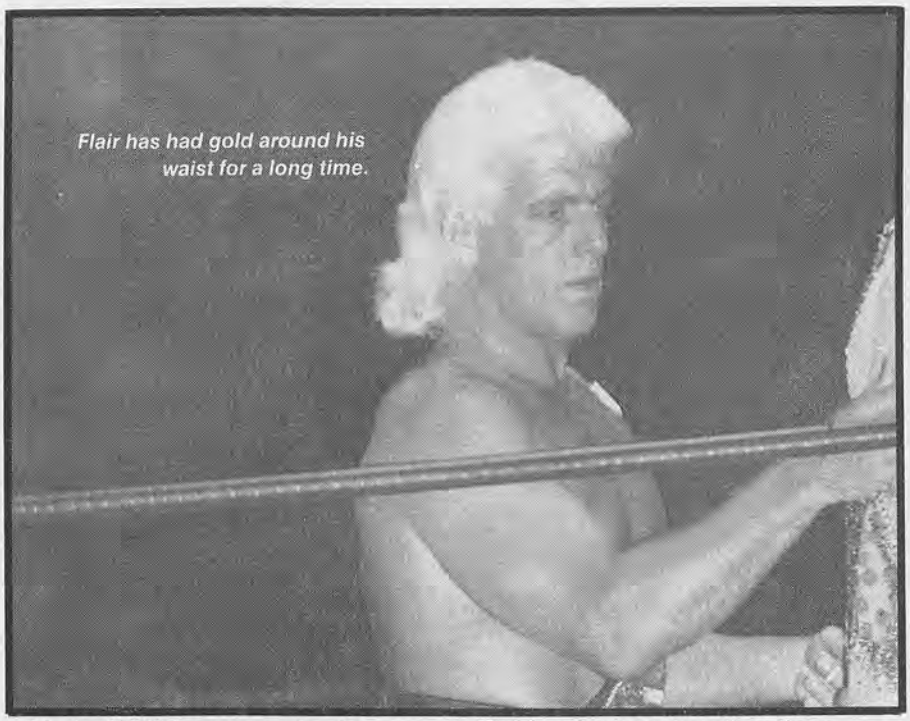
DiBiase comes from a wrestling legacy. His father and mother both were accomplished wrestlers. Before signing on the 'dotted line'



*DiBiase and his sidekick Virgil.*



*DiBiase takes Beefcake down for a pin.*



*Flair has had gold around his waist for a long time.*

with the WWF, every region he wrestled DiBiase silenced any critics that may have doubted his ability. In the Universal Wrestling Federation, the Mid-South Sports Promotions of Texas, Oregon as well as in Japan and Canada, DiBiase collected title belts by being the best and beating the best.

Upon entering the WWF, the emphasis with DiBiase appears to be totally on his role or gimmick as a man who throws away money and supports a philosophy that everyone has a price at which they can be bought. Copy-cat, unimaginative, and a step away from down right plagerism from the NWA textbook is how the appearance of the 'Million Dollar Man' and Virgil can be read.

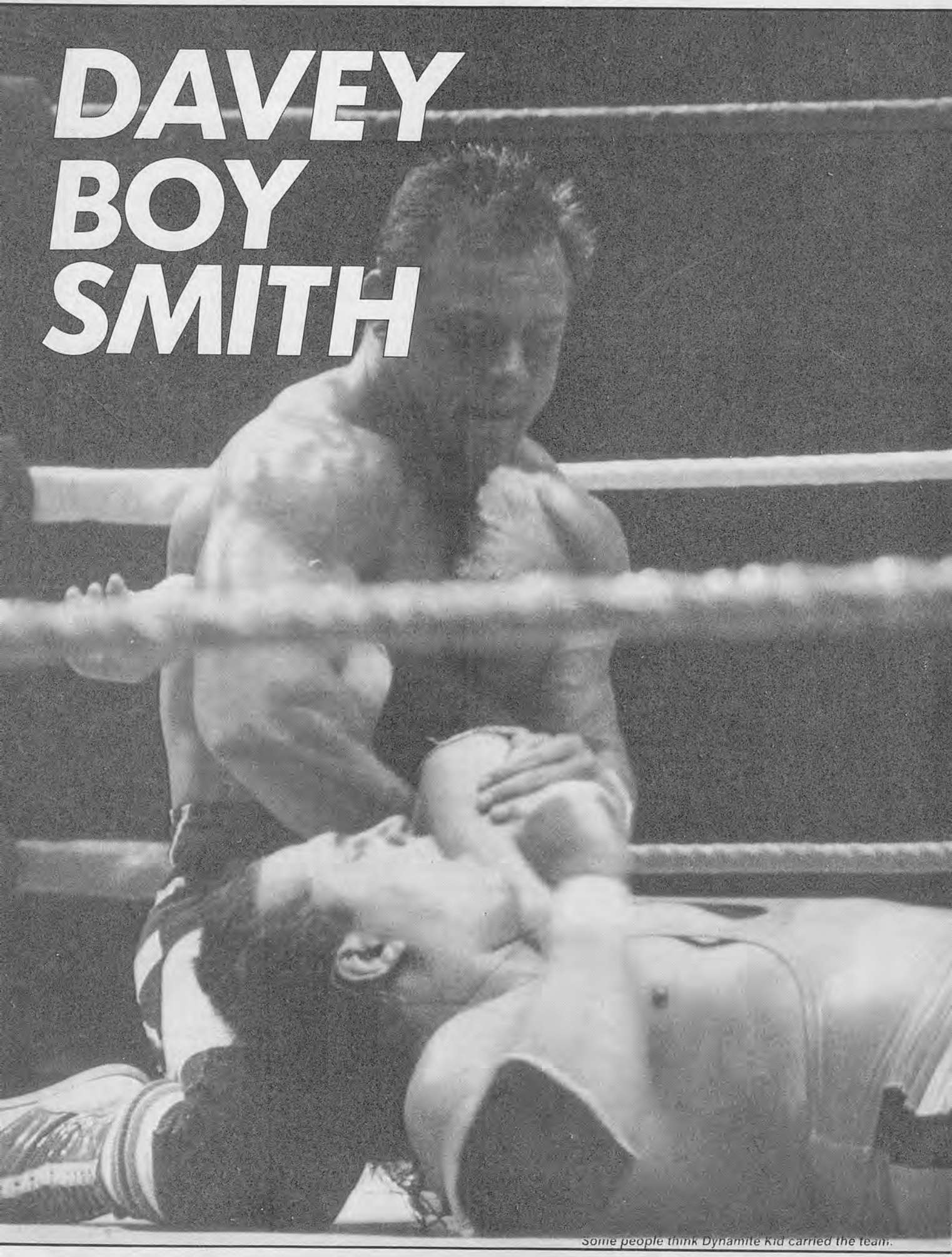
Perhaps the best solution to this clearly recognizable feud is to put Flair and DiBiase in the ring together and be treated to a matchup that could be talked about for years to come. Better yet, put Mr. McMahon and the NWA Landlord Jim Crockett in the 'squared circle,' in a cage match no less, which could very possibly draw an audience the size of a large metropolitan city.

If someone were to ask who is better Flair or DiBiase, most would call it a draw based on their athletic skills. However, if the same question arose in comparing their ability to get across to the fans their identity, a 'Nature Boy' or a 'Million Dollar Man,' at this point in time the majority of fans believe Flair's attestments rather than DiBiase's claim of wealth. If the WWF wants DiBiase's sudden affluence to have any credibility, why does the 'Million Dollar Man' throw dollar bills at the audience? The old saying, 'you can fool some of the people some of the time but you can't fool all of the people all of the time' fits like a glove in this case of the WWF VS the NWA in reference to the Flair-DiBiase comparison.

Ric Flair knows only main events. He doesn't need a silent henchman to act as his shadow. Being a member of wrestling's elite 'Four Hoseman,' Flair remains the world champion on ability, first and foremost. His 'styling and profiling' way of presenting himself to the public is down right entertaining and what's more, original.

Ted DiBiase has yet to dethrone the WWF's pseudo-counterpart of Flair, that being Hulk Hogan. All the bragging and threats haven't put a gold strap around DeBiase's waist. Although, perhaps just missing out on being a successful Flair duplicate, DiBiase is the bridesmaid in this situation. The WWF has unequivocably missed out in this battle of the war against the NWA. Perhaps Mr. McMahon and company will do better in their next offensive. I wonder if they are in need of any suggestions? Here's one the WWF may wish to ponder, what about a tag team that resembles The Road Warriors?

# DAVEY BOY SMITH



*Some people think Dynamite Kid carried the team.*

# HOW LONG CAN HE LAST WITHOUT DYNAMITE KID?

**BY TOM CLUTTERS**
**PHOTOS BY DeSPIRITO**

In the history of professional sports, many an athlete has seen his career affected or even ended by serious injury. Especially in pro wrestling, the possibility of career-threatening damage accompanies each and every gladiator to the ring every night.

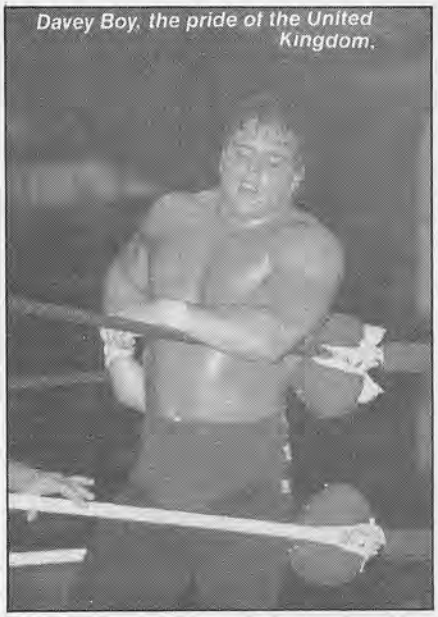
Davey Boy Smith and the Dynamite Kid, collectively known as the British Bulldogs, can tell you about injuries. From a position as one of the world's top tag teams less than a year ago, the Bulldogs have plunged into the depths of uncertainty, due mostly to the health of the Kid.

The high-flying Bulldogs brought their exciting style to the World Wrestling Federation early in 1986, and with a steamroller-like effect, cruised to the tag team titles. On December 13, in Hamilton, Ontario, things suddenly took a downward turn. In a match against Bob "Ace" Orton and the Magnificent Muraco, the Dynamite Kid was hit with a knee in the back from Muraco. This was an often-seen tactic, but the results of this particular knee were devastating. The Kid managed to finish the match, but knew something was seriously wrong. Some paralysis had set in in his leg, and the pain in his back was unbearable.

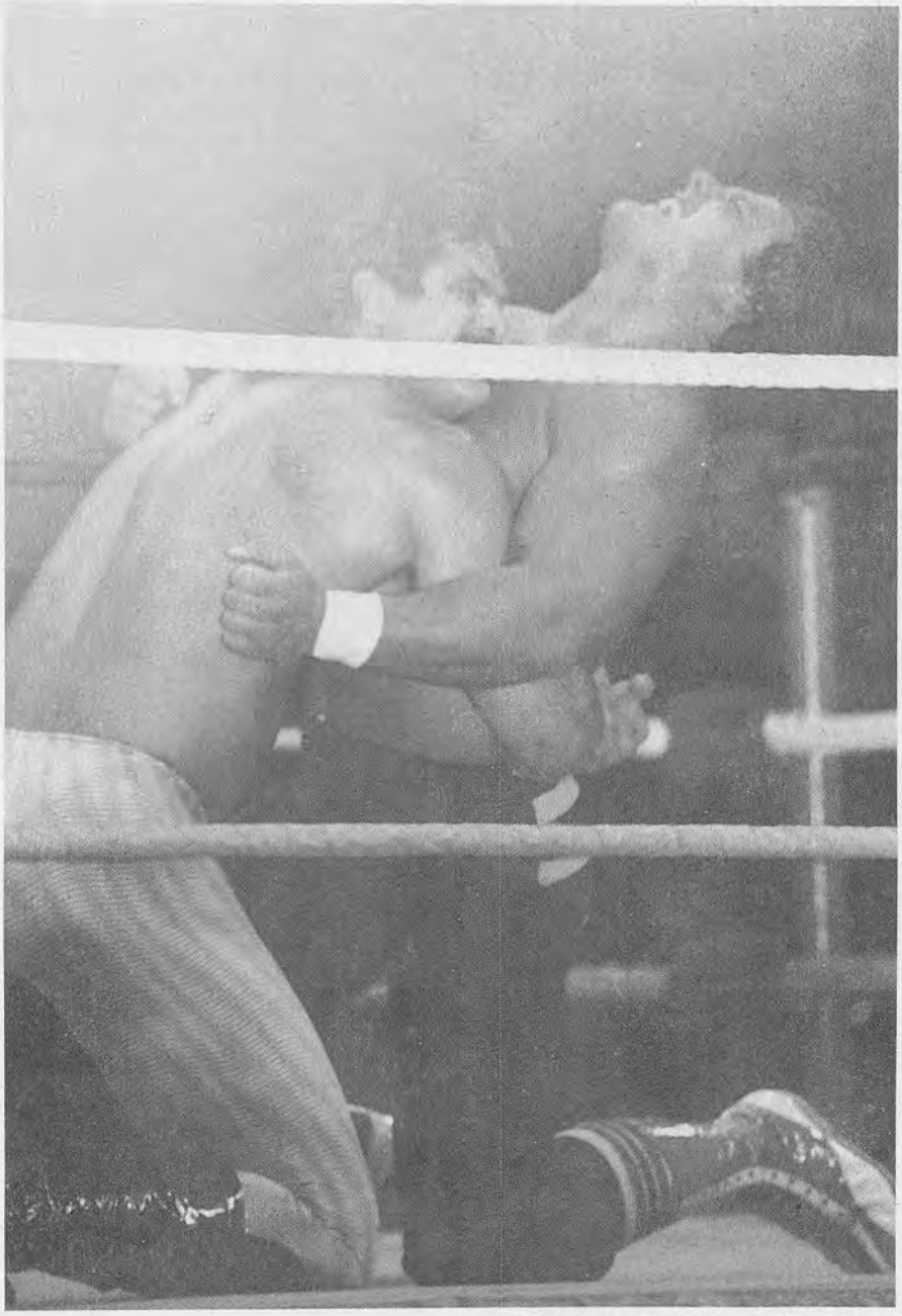
After examination, it was discovered that the Kid had suffered an injury to one of the discs in his spine. He tried to keep going in the ring, but two days before Christmas, he was forced to undergo surgery. The prognosis was favorable but the long road to recovery has been difficult and painful. Even today, many months after the incident, Davey Boy Smith must come face to face with reality. If Dynamite is unable to wrestle again, he must carry on the Bulldog tradition by himself.

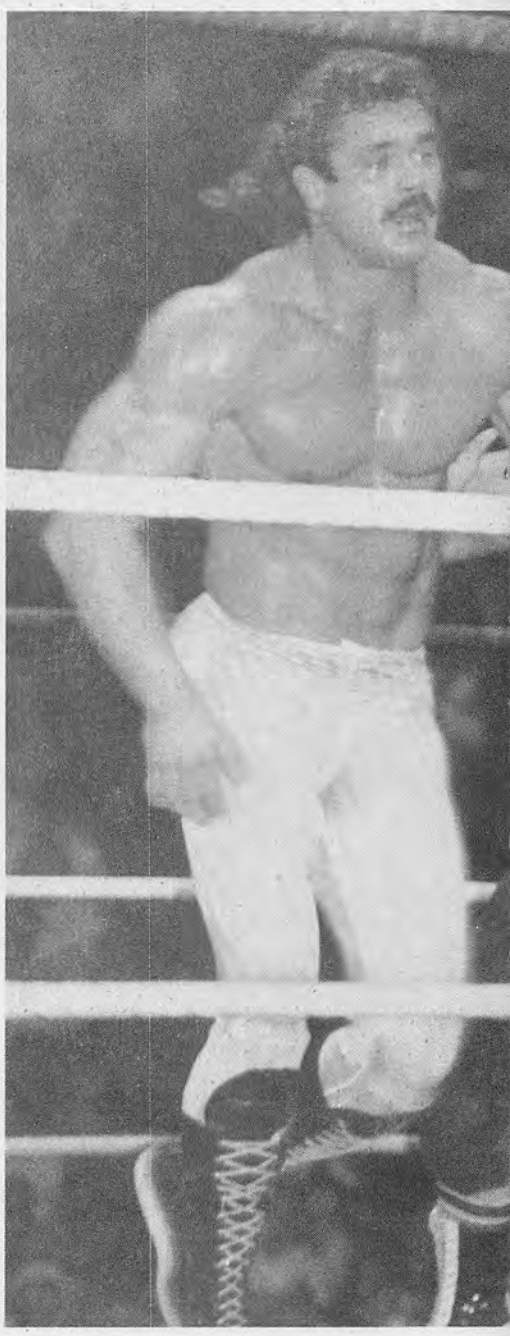
Even after the Kid tried to return to the ring, Smith was forced to carry the bulk of the load, and did so willingly. During matches, Dynamite's ring time was limited to no more than a couple of minutes at once, and Davey Boy found himself taking the brunt of an opponent's attack. In fact, the Kid was unable to help when the Hart Foundation (with assistance from "referee" Danny Davis) took the WWF tag belts.

"It looked to me like Davey Boy simply refused to acknowledge that his cousin couldn't wrestle," said a WWF official. "They still signed for matches, even though Smith ended up doing 90 percent of the work in the ring. Sometimes it got pretty brutal for him. Opponents knew that Dynamite wasn't able help very much, and they worked Davey Boy over pretty good. But you know, I never heard him complain. Not once." Indeed, the bond of loyalty between the Bulldogs is strong, almost obsessive. Since they first got together in the rings of western Canada, the Bulldogs developed a working relationship and personal friendship that held together through all of their success in the WWF. Now, as they face a future that is uncertain at best, the bonds seem to be even stronger. "Nearly everyone



*Davey Boy, the pride of the United Kingdom.*

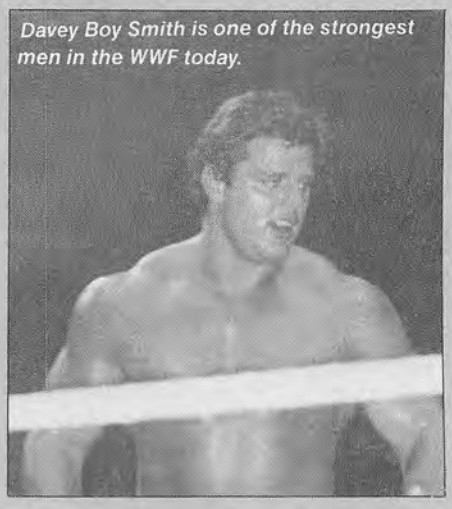




*Davey Boy screams in the arms of Rick Rude.*

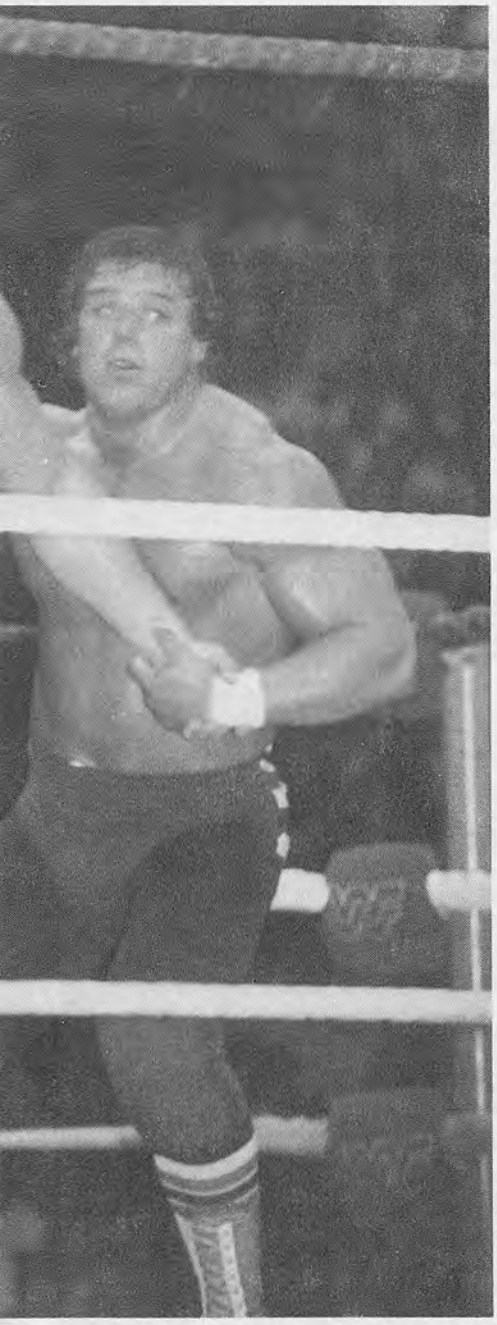
realizes that the British Bulldogs may never be the same again," said the official. "But if everything works out, and Dynamite is able to get back to full strength, you'd have to give a great deal of the credit to Davey Boy. I know that the Kid has worked hard and suffered quite a bit trying to get his health back, but Smith has been the one who has kept them together."

A native of Manchester, England, Smith was known as the "power man" of the team. Almost 20 pounds heavier than Dynamite, Davey Boy's function was to soften up opponents in order that the

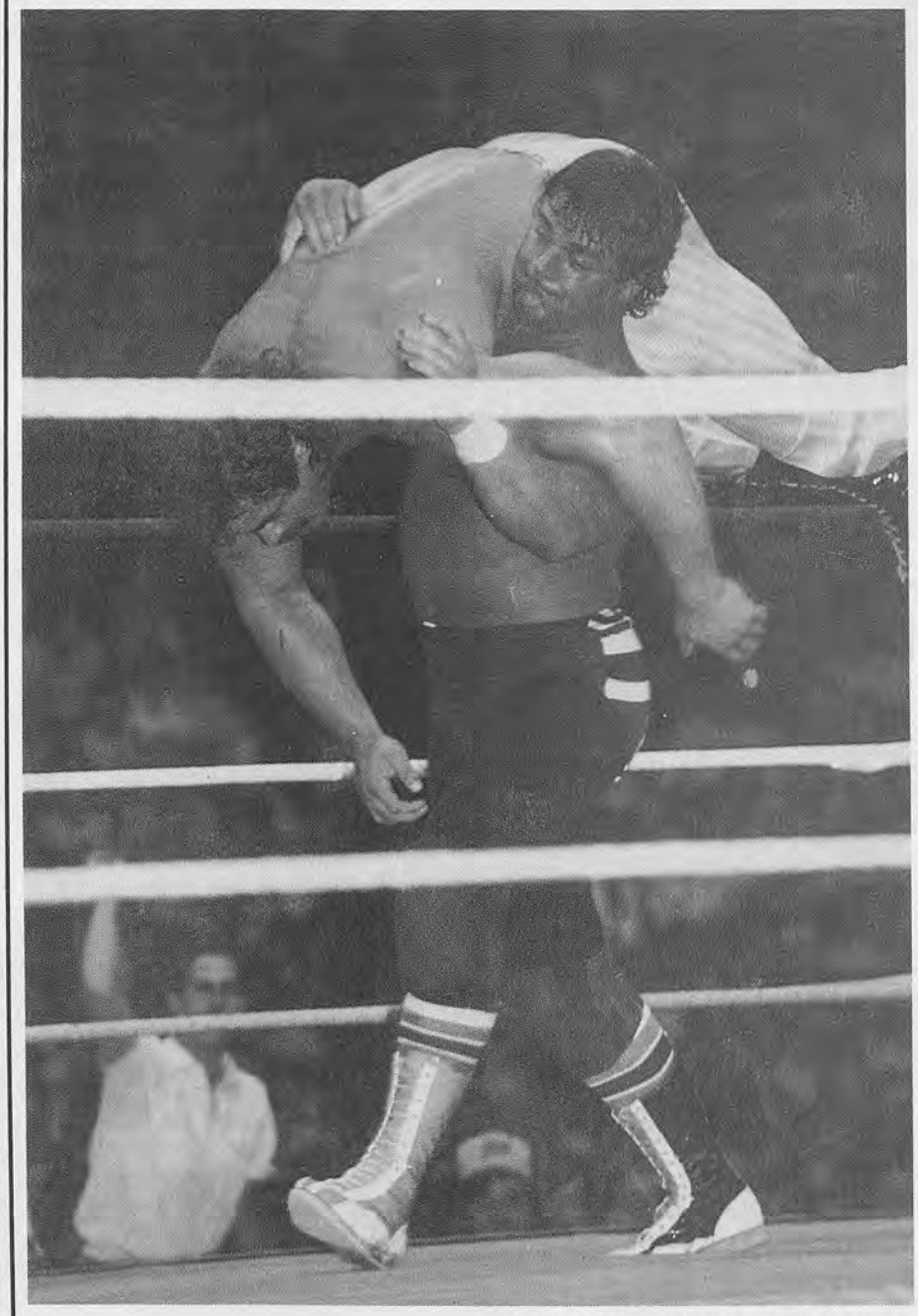


*Davey Boy Smith is one of the strongest men in the WWF today.*

high-flying Kid could apply the finisher. The Bulldogs displayed breathtaking maneuvers that had never been seen in a wrestling ring before. Opponents were kept off-balance by an attack that was never quite the same two times in a row. Smith, with both the strength and the ability to execute aerial moves such as dropkicks, was a formidable foe. The Kid, on the other hand, had a hell-bent style that showed little regard for his own safety. One of his favorite moves was to be launched from the top rope by Davey Boy to execute a flying head butt to an oppo-



*Rude is whipped into the ropes.*



*Davey Boy powerslams Rude for a victory.*

nent. This move, while extremely effective, more often than not left the Kid almost as dazed as his opponent. The combination of their wrestling styles and their good looks made them one of history's most popular teams, and there seemed to be no limit to their potential.

Unfortunately, fate has little regard for popularity or ability. Injuries occur to all types of athletes, whether their talents are limited or not. If the Dynamite Kid is unable to come back, what would Davey Boy Smith's wrestling future look like?

"Hell, that kid (Smith) can get along without Dynamite," stated one veteran ring journalist. "He's got a whole world of talent, and could even be the world champion if he put his mind to it. Sure, everyone hates to see what's happened, but there's nothing anyone can do about it. It's done, and the sooner Smith wakes up and realizes that Dynamite may not be able to go on, the better off he'll be."

As you may be aware, security is tight in the WWF. Wrestlers are seldom permitted to submit to interviews with "non-approved" writers and broadcasters. This made it difficult to get Davey Boy's true feelings. However, one is able to get information provided you know where to look, and if you are willing to conceal identities. One source close to the situation had these observations: "Talking to Davey Boy, you get the impression that the Kid was never injured. It's always 'we' and 'us' when you ask him about what will happen down the road. Dynamite knows the possibilities, but if anyone can make it all the way back, he can. You know, now that I think about it, maybe Davey Boy knows something that we don't."

# HONKY TONK MAN

## HERO OR HOAX?

**BY DON LAIBLE**
**PHOTOS BY JOE PINKANS**

Most everyone has heard the statement "from rags to riches." It is newsworthy when a public figure has his story told. What makes it entertaining is to hear how an athlete that is known worldwide, struggled to climb the ladder of success from relative obscurity. Wayne Ferris, better known to millions of wrestling fans as The Honkytonk Man, is living proof that in America if you work hard and believe in yourself, someone will take notice in your talents. Paying your dues, that's what Ferris has done since 1978. Now Ferris enjoys the notoriety that some can only dream of one day attaining. However, it was a bumpy road to the top.

Before he ever thought of being billed as The Honkytonk Man, Ferris began battling opponents for Promoter Henry Rogers in Malden, Missouri. Malden, a tiny rural community isn't exactly what you may label a wrestling 'hot bed.' The promoter and his quaint arena did provide a launching pad for Ferris. On weekends the Memphis native would embark on the long drive from Tennessee to Missouri. However small of a promotion Rogers operated, Ferris carefully selected the organization. 'Hotstuff' Eddie Gilbert and KoKo B. Ware also hand picked Malden as the site to serve their apprenticeship in wrestling.

After a couple of months taking on some of Malden's toughest grapplers, namely Dr. Jerry Watson, Ferris decided he was trained and skilled enough for the big-time. Being a cousin to 'King' Jerry Lawler, who is to Memphis what Bruno Sammartino was for so many years to the Northeast, Ferris had an 'in' with the Memphis based Continental Wrestling Association.

Within six months of traveling and enjoying all the luxuries that are associated with a major wrestling league, Ferris found his own identity. Along with his new found

*Are we looking at the new Elvis?*

*Wayne Ferris is the Honky Tonk Man.*

individuality came a new look. Ferris bleached his hair blonde, grew a beard which he also bleached blonde, and changed his ring behavior to that of total disregard for the rulebook. Another important change at this time for Ferris was his new-found taking to tag team competition.

Forming a successful duo with Ferris was Larry Latham. Together they ruled the Jarrett-Welsh (CWA) promotion of Memphis for almost two years. Ferris and Latham were billed as 'The Blonde Bombers. Years later both men would receive international notoriety. Ferris as The Honkytonk Man and Latham as Moondog Spot. Ironically, Ferris' current manager in the World Wrestling Federation—Colonel Jimmy Hart was a National Wrestling Alliance sanctioned referee in the South during the 'Bombers' teaming days. On several occasions Hart handled the 'third man' duties during a Ferris match. Who would have ever predicted that less than ten years later the two, Ferris and Hart would be among the sport's elite!

When deciding to go their separate ways, 'Blonde Bomber' Ferris became The Honkytonk Man. From the warm southern rings, Wayne opted for a fresh start in the not so warm climate of Calgary, Alberta, Canada for the Foothill Athletic Promotions. The Foothill group is headed by the legendary Stu Hart (no relation to Colonel Jimmy).

Granted, the media attention wasn't the magnitude of Los Angeles or New York City but the Elvis Presley look-a-like, sound-a-like gimmick implemented by Honkytonk was going over in a big

*Jerry Lawler is a cousin of Ferris.*

way with the Canadian fans. As important as his gimmick, his ring ability continued to improve. While seeing mat action in Canada, Honkytonk rapidly became one of the nation's most known athletic entertainers, running close to hockey's Wayne Gretzky.

While under the tutelage of manager John Foley, Honkytonk captured the North American Heavyweight Championship. 'Badnews' Alan Coage, Don Kroffat, Cowboy Frankie Lane and The Mongolian Stomper-Archie Gouldie, all well trained ring veterans, fell victim to Honkytonk and his 'shake, Rattle and Roll' finishing hold, which is a version of the neckbreaker.

In most instances, when you offer a good product and you're many miles away from New York City, as Honkytonk was by being in Calgary, word spread fast to the World Wrestling Federation offices.

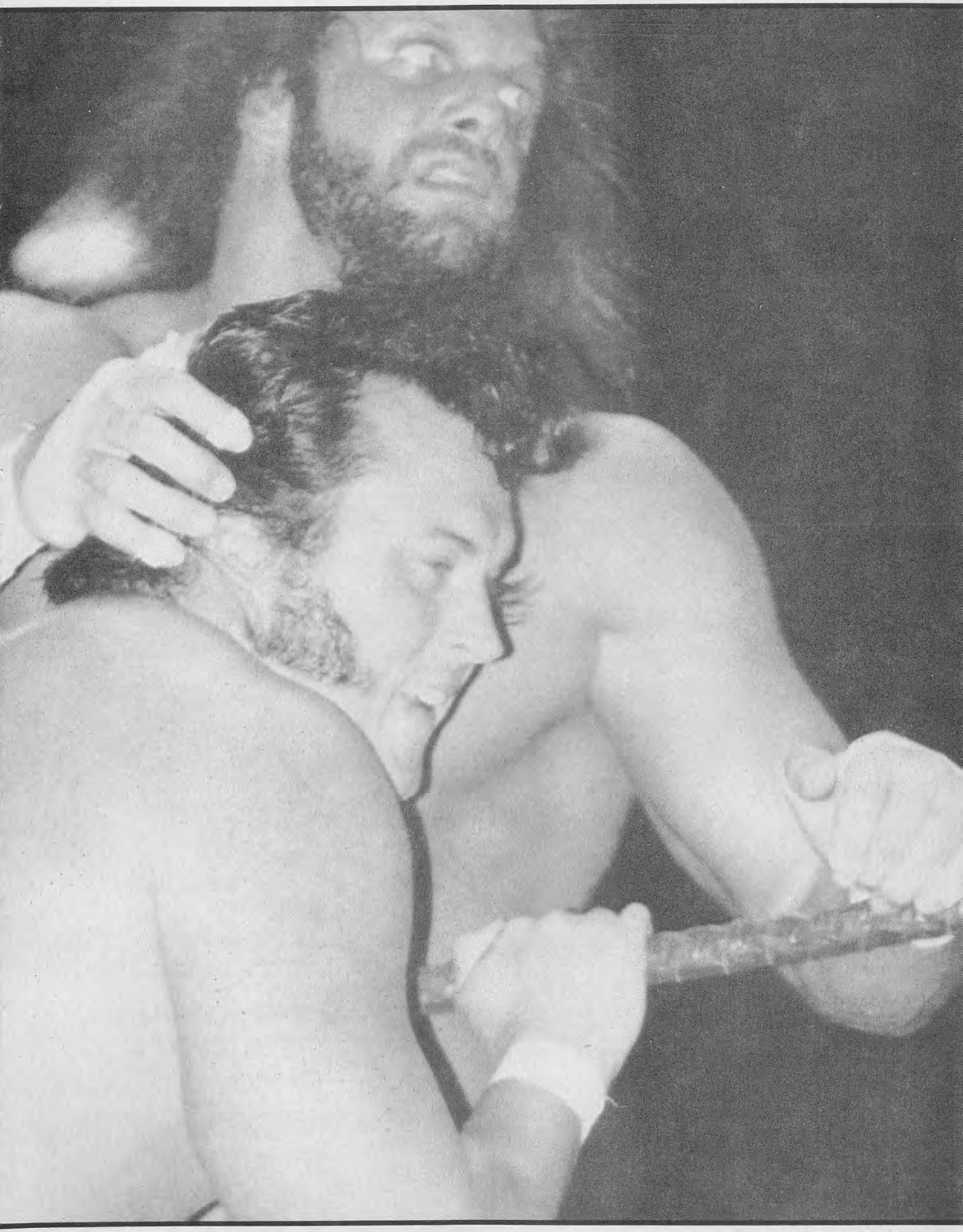
*The Honky Tonk Man battles it out with the Macho Man.*

However, much to the WWF officials surprise, the fans didn't take a liking to the Honkytonk Man. The organization went as far as taking a write-in poll as to know how the fans felt towards him and why. Overwhelmingly they chose against his mat behavior and his style. The fans especially didn't like his Elvis imitation. The chorus of boos became deafening wherever he appeared for his new home circuit of the WWF.

Not appreciating the fans response to him, The Honkytonk Man enlisted the services of an old acquaintance, Jimmy Hart, now one of the leading mat masterminds in the WWF as his manager. When the two joined forces, both Honkytonk and Hart saw their professional careers skyrocket. The ex-"Blonde Bomber" and the ex-referee cut a record and personal appearances were pouring in. Although they weren't cheered by the fans, ticket buyers did fill arenas when the southerners were booked, to shout their displeasure for their rule-breaking antics and their Elvis impersonations.

Ricky 'the Dragon' Steamboat is one of the most cherished members of the WWF by the fans. He pulled off an upset in WRESTLEMANIA 3 by defeating Randy Savage for the Intercontinental title. All looked extremely rosy for Steamboat's career, that is until he met up with Honkytonk in Buffalo, New York.

Just a few short months ago, when the matchup ended between the two, Honkytonk left the ring with the championship belt strapped around his waist by Hart. Now, only Hulk Hogan is a step higher on the WWF success ladder than the man from Memphis. Who knows, the Hulkster can fall victim to Honkytonk in the near future. Understimating The Honkytonk Man wouldn't be a safe bet. No one thought he could dethrone Steamboat and look what happened. Like him or not, The Honkytonk Man is a wrestling success story with many more chapters to go. He may not be a hero to many but his credentials certainly prove without a shadow of a doubt that he is certainly not a fluke.



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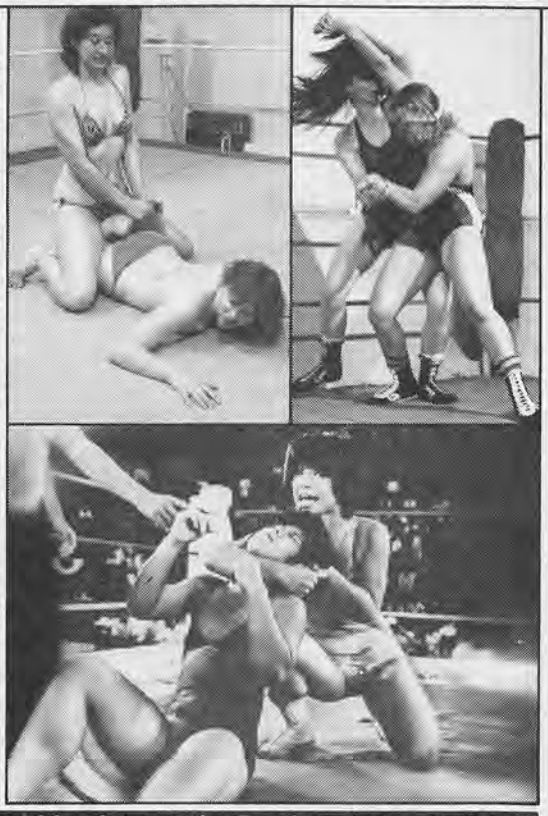

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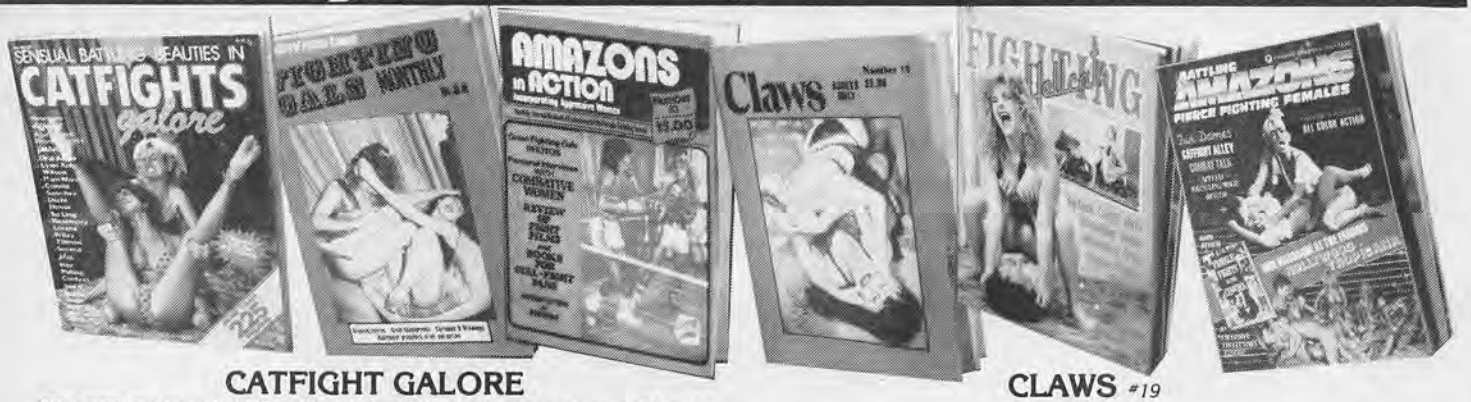


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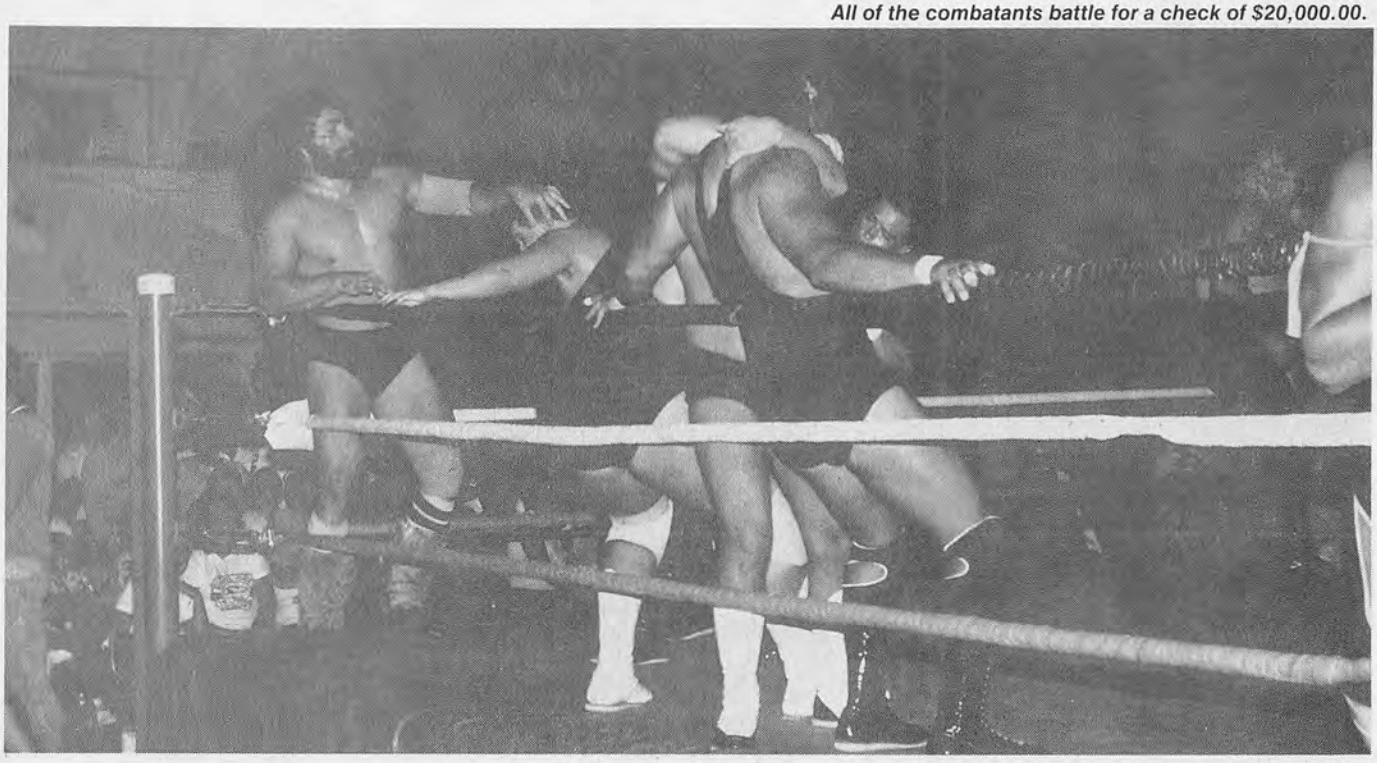
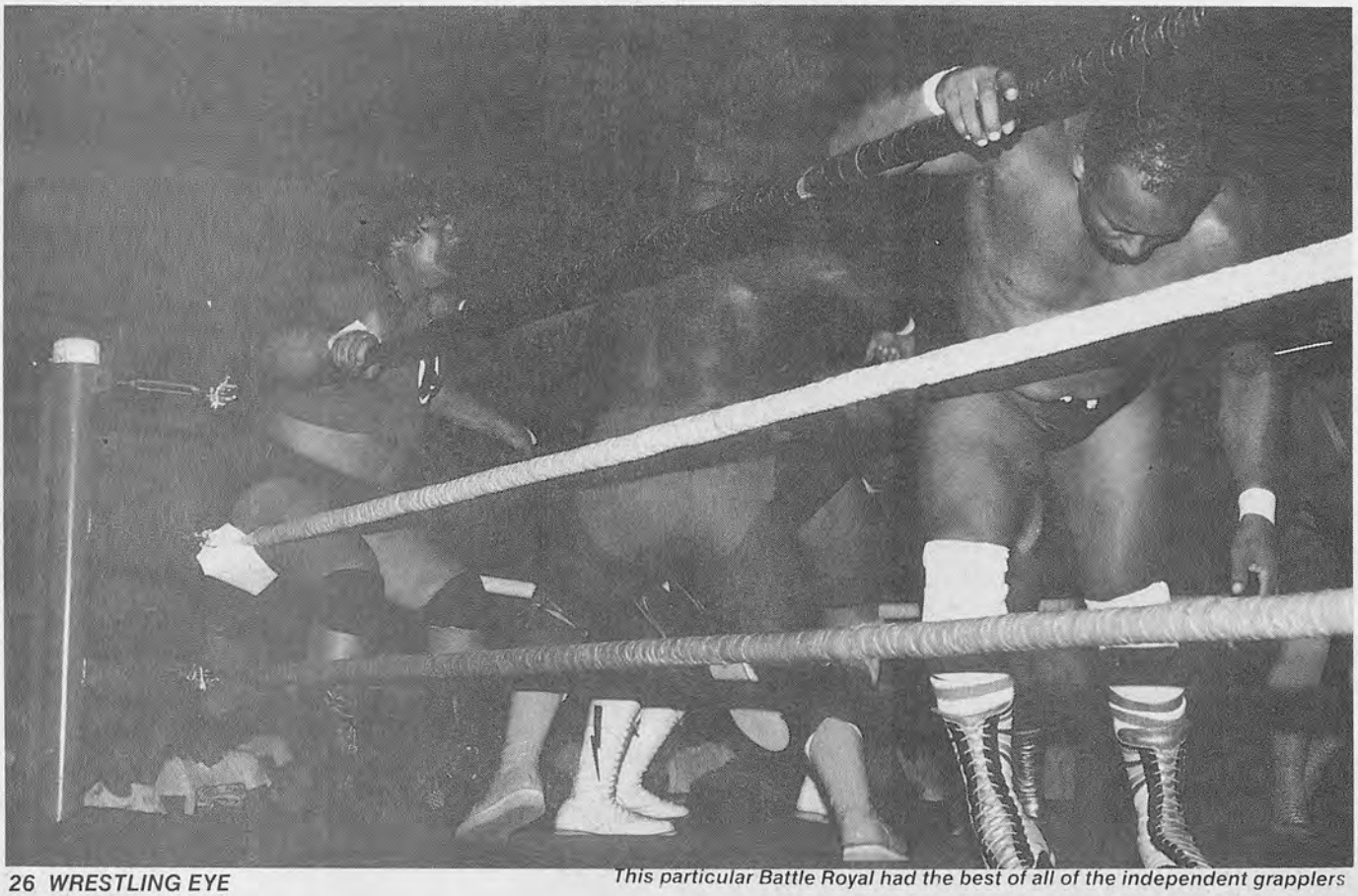


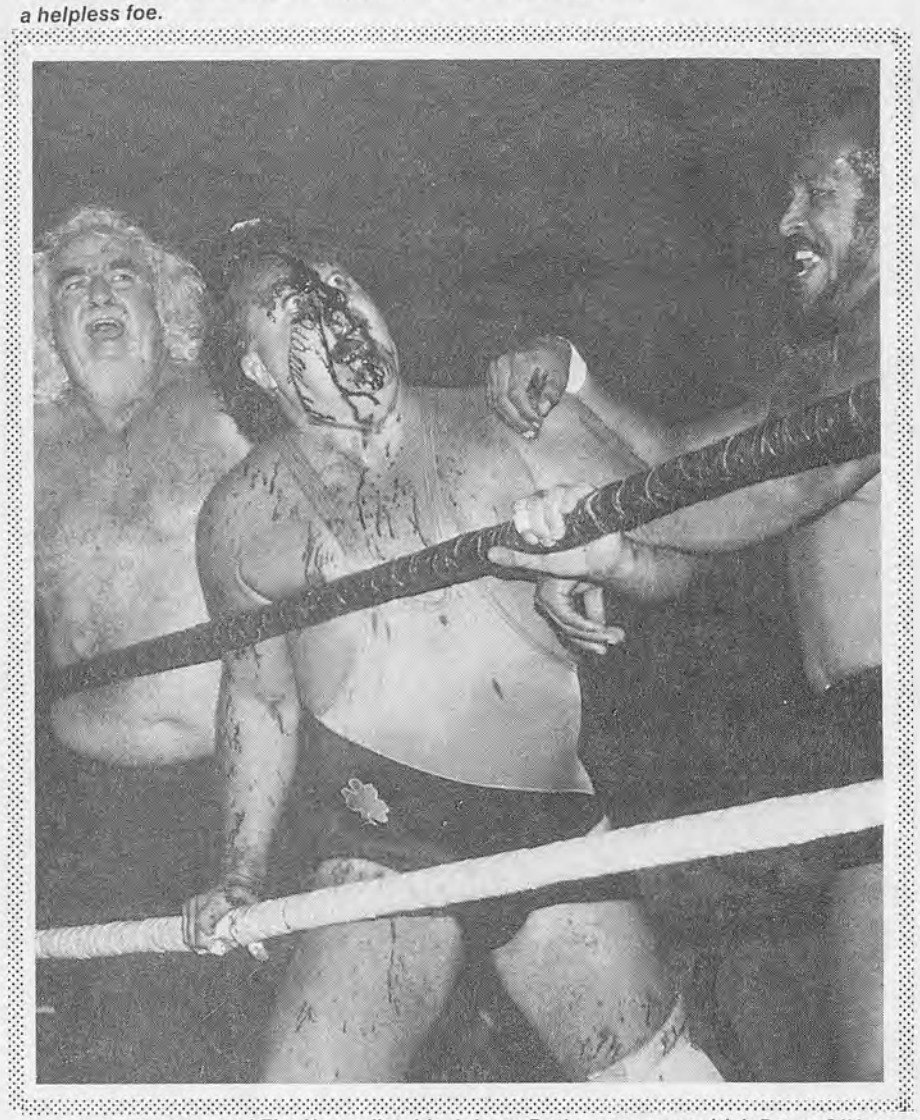




*This particular Battle Royal had the best of all of the independent grapplers*

A. *Bruiser Brody, as seen here, attempts to tie Crazy Luke Graham up in the ropes.*

B. *Abdullah the Butcher also a competitor in the Battle Royal, steps on the chest of a helpless foe.*



*Crazy Luke Graham and The Unpredictable Johnny Rodz, gang up on Irish Davey O'Hannon.*

*Down to the final few competitors, Tony Atlas and The Mad Russian battle outside the ring. The Mad Russian, an underdog, was the lucky victor and recipient of $20,000.00*

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# SIR OLIVER HUMPERDINK

## ROYALTY COMES TO THE W.W.F.

**By Tom Clutters**

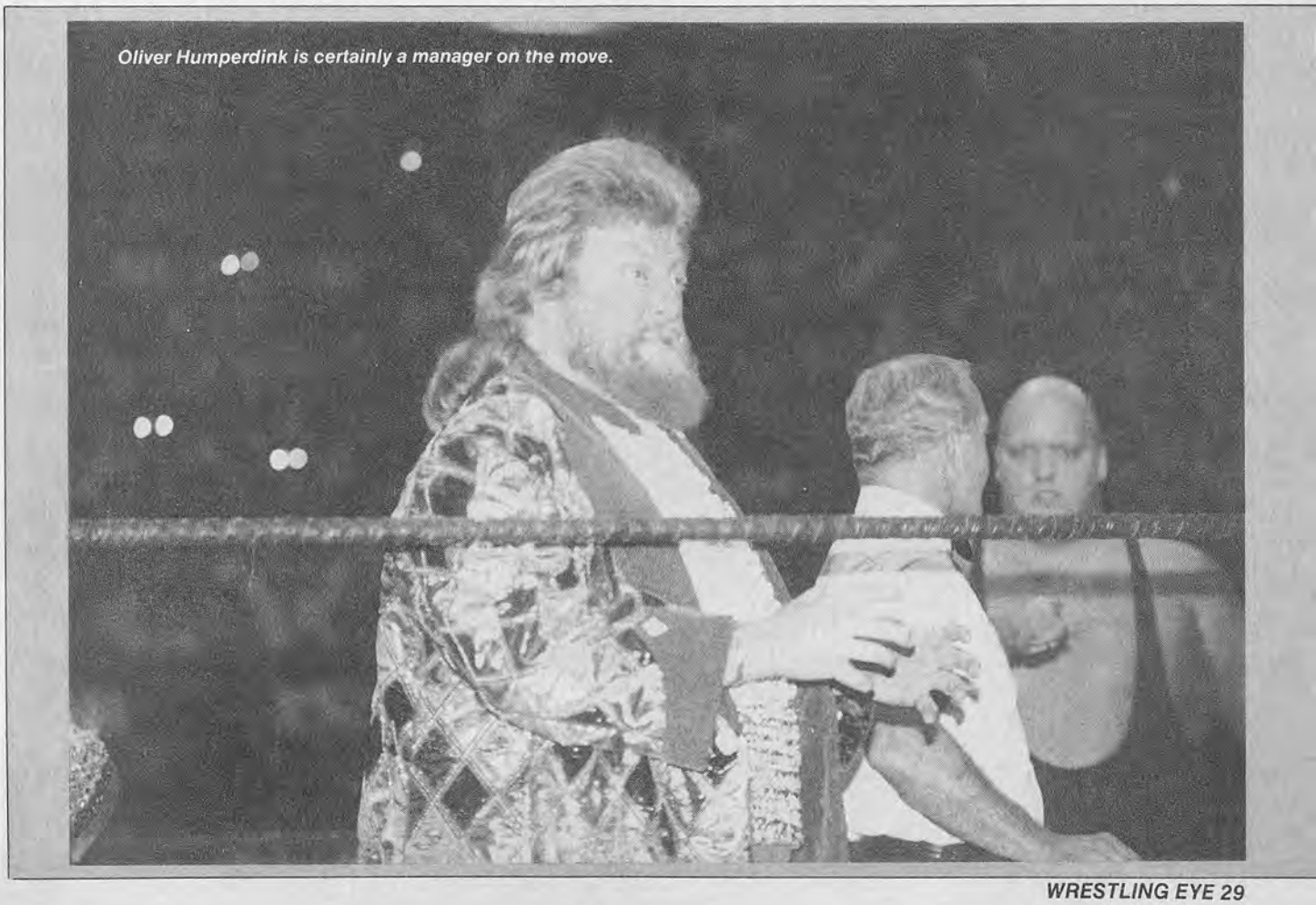
**Photos by Andrew Korton**

Sir Oliver Humperdink has a mission. He's out to prove that his managing talents are just as good as any of his more well-known peers.

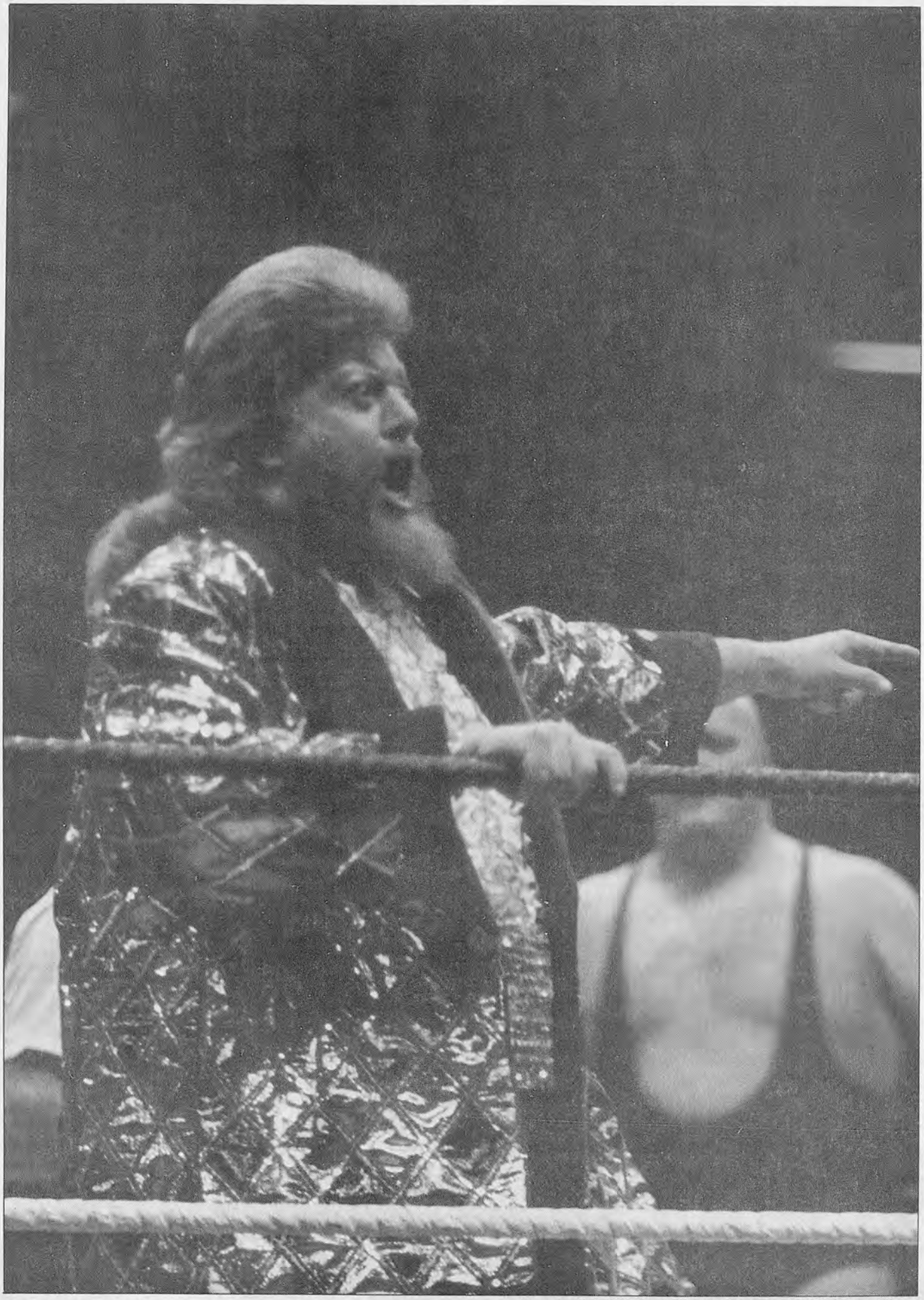
After spending most of his career laboring in the arenas of Florida, Humperdink has now made the big move. He's working in the World Wrestling Federation, where managers are more common than fleas on the proverbial dog. Before entering the WWF, Oliver was well aware that he must do something to set himself apart from the rest of the pack.

First of all, it was decided that Sir Oliver should change his nasty image. If no one in the WWF was familiar with his past, they should ask people like Steve Keirn, Stan Lane and Blackjack Mulligan just how devious Oliver Humperdink's mind could be. The wars he waged against the fan favorites in the Sunshine State were legendary. Using men such as Kendo Nagasaki, Ed Gantner, and Kevin Sullivan, he made life absolutely miserable for many.

Intent on moving to the other side of the fence, Humperdink contacted Paul "Mr. Wonderful" Orndorff. Paul was struggling with himself, both physically and mentally. He had returned to the stable of Bobby Heenan after ambushing his former friend, Hulk Hogan, but it seemed that "The Brain" was more concerned with his other charges, including King Kong Bundy, Harley Race, and Hercules



*Oliver Humperdink is certainly a manager on the move.*



*Humperdink is following in the footsteps of Capt Lou Albano.*

Hernandez. Orndorff was unsure as to what direction his career was heading, and was even considering retirement. After meeting with Humperdink, Paul decided to sign up as Sir Oliver's first subject, and try to get his career back on track. The Orndorff-Humperdink combination was immediately a success, as the fans welcomed both of them with open arms.

"Oliver made the right choice to go with Paul Orndorff," said one observer. "It just seemed like fate that they would get together."

In August of 1987, the WWF was in an uproar over the impending arrival of one Bam Bam Bigelow, who was considered a certain future champion. The 390-pound New Jersey native had a rare combination of size and speed that would present problems for any opponent, especially Hulk Hogan. It was almost humorous to watch Slick, Johnny V, Heenan, Mr. Fuji, and Jimmy Hart scramble around to get Bigelow's signature on a contract. They seemed ready to stop at nothing short of murder to secure Bam Bam's services. One by one, however, the possible managers were eliminated. Finally, only the Slickster remained. So confident was he of winning "The Battle for Bam Bam," that he purchased air time on a WWF TV presentation to announce the signing.

With the giant Russian, Nikolai Volkoff by his side, Slick gleefully introduced Bigelow to both the crowd in attendance and the TV viewers. When the spotlight went on, however, it was the blazing red hair and sequined jacket of Oliver Humperdink that strolled down the aisle. Confidently, he walked to the podium, and took the microphone from the obviously confused Slickster. "I'm here to introduce Bam Bam Bigelow!" he declared. With that, the tatooed Bigelow entered the arena to the cheers of the fans. "Listen here, you jerk," said Bigelow, pointing at Slick. "You're not my manager." As the startled Slickster stumbled back, Volkoff stepped in and challenged Bam Bam. If it wasn't the biggest mistake of Volkoff's career, it certainly was in the top two. Bigelow promptly knocked the Russian off the podium, and onto the floor. When the two met on television a week later, Bam Bam dispatched Volkoff with relative ease, and Humperdink smiled with confidence.

According to reports, Bigelow had intended to sign with one of the regular WWF managers until, one day he was contacted by Humperdink. The two talked for several hours, and finally, it was decided that Oliver would take over Bam Bam's career. Apparently, Bigelow had had enough of being hated by the fans, and was interested in "cleaning out" some of the unsavory characters in the WWF. When the deal was concluded, they decided to hold off on the announcement until the last possible moment.

If Humperdink had not been taken seriously when he first arrived, the signing of Orndorff and Bigelow certainly would force everyone to sit up and take notice. Now, as the heir apparent to Capt. Lou Albano, Oliver finds himself with almost unlimited possibilities.

For sure, Albano proved that a man changed his ways in wrestling, and still be successful. He led teams like Barry Windham & Mike Rotundo and The British Bulldogs to the tag team titles, and was instrumental in guiding the careers of other wrestlers prior to his retirement.

Now, Sir Oliver Humperdink is available to men like Ken Patera and Don Muraco, who have both recently changed their ways, but still might need the help of a manager. The endless combinations that would be possible actually boggle the mind. Patera and Orndorff would be a tremendously potent combination, and the same can also be said for a pairing of Bigelow and Muraco. Or, how about Muraco and Orndorff. Or maybe Patera and Bigelow. Or how about...well, you get the idea.

"I've never seen 'Humper' so pleased with the way things are going," said a close friend. "He had a lot of success in Florida with his teams, but he sees how much can be done in the WWF, and he just can't sleep thinking about it."

Certainly, the World Wrestling Federation has been both a blessing and a curse to many athletes who have entered its ranks. While the careers of men like Hulk Hogan and Randy Savage have been helped immensely by their WWF experience, many others have found it to be a dead end. As for Sir Oliver Humperdink, life in the WWF couldn't be better. Yes, he can now truly be called, "The Royalty of Managers."

*Oliver Humperdink is one of the best managers around today.*

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## THE CAN AM DIVISION

# RICK MARTEL

*There's no love lost between these two now.*

**By Ciji Brianne**

**Photos by DeSpirito**

Just over a year ago, a new tag team burst onto the WWF scene. Tall, dark and handsome, long brown hair, white spandex briefs, long boot laces—The Can-Am Connection. From their first appearance, they seemed destined to wear the gold around their waists.

For Rick Martel, it was like a dream come true. Since he dropped the AWA heavyweight title to Stan Hansen, his career had definitely taken a nosedive. He had returned to the Montreal area to recover from a back injury. Many said he was a quitter, something that hurt Martel a lot. To prove he was still around, he worked for good friend and promoter Gino Brito Sr. in Canada's International Wrestling. Martel used his credibility with wrestlers to bring in new talent to the area, including old friend Tom Zenk. Zenk was relatively inexperienced but had had a very successful stay in the Pacific Northwest, holding both the heavyweight title and the tag team title (with Scott Doring). Zenk soon captured the International tag team belts with new partner, Dan Kroffat. Martel was impressed with Zenk's ability and looks, noting their similar colouring. In his mind, he began formulating an exciting new tag team. He envisioned The Can-Am Connection, right down to the style of hair and the clothes they would wear. Martel sold his stock in the International promo-

# AND TOM ZENK

tion and headed for a short stay in Puerto Rico, waiting for Zenk and Kroffat to drop their title. In mid-October, the belts changed hands. Martel offered Zenk the chance of a lifetime—a lucrative tag team tournament in Japan. And after the Japan tour? The WWF, the supposed land of milk and honey.

The combination was perfect. Two good friends with similar looks and coloring, charisma, speed, agility, determination AND the desire to make it all come together. For fans, Martel and Zenk were likewise a dream come true. It seemed too good to be real. And for Rick Martel, it was.

On July 10 in Boston, the dream became a nightmare. Just hours before a scheduled televised interview, Tom Zenk dropped off the keys to their rental car at the front desk of their hotel and left. Martel had been deserted. Obviously taken by surprise, he went through with the TV spot anyway, supposedly speaking on behalf of Zenk. Rumors circulated that Zenk was injured or maybe delayed somewhere. Martel knew better, but wasn't saying much. What do you say when you know your partner has left you for good?

In a desperate attempt to get him to return, Martel flew to Zenk's new home in Minnesota. "I went to ask him to come back, maybe put in two years, make some money and THEN leave. But he slammed the door in my face. After all I've done for him, he wouldn't give me the time of day. He left me like a thief in the night. It really upset me. That's all I have to say about it," said Martel, when reached for comment at a later Toronto card. For the benefit of the television audience, Craig DeGeorge announced that Martel's partner had "just up and left" when the going got tough. We were then treated to a snivelling Martel, gasping for breath like he'd just run a marathon. "Cause, you see, the competition got to be too much against the Islanders, and my partner left me, quit on me. Yes, I felt bad inside, I was hurt, but the Islanders—you're gonna learn a lesson that I'm not a quitter, I'm a fighter! Yes, I may be alone, but I'm gonna come at you even if it's one by one or with a new partner, because a lot of people want to be my partner !" Enter Tito Santana, who left the Spanish commentators' table to rescue Martel from a double team effort by the Islanders. So emerged the new tag team, the Strike Force—a poor imitation of the original Can-Ams, lacking the charisma, looks and overall appeal of Zenk and Martel. (Perhaps they should be known as the Can-A-Mexican Connection. Santana had recently been relegated to the undercard and does not seem to have Zenk's main event appeal!) Meanwhile, as far as the WWF was concerned, Tom Zenk didn't even exist anymore. He was rumored to have retired completely and referred to by Bobby Heenan as a cowering idiot. The rumour mill churned out many different versions of where he had gone and why he had left, ranging from his general lack of wrestling skill to various aspersions on his personal and moral character. No one seemed to know the 'real' story.

When reached in Minnesota, Zenk was having a great time. "I finally have some time to spend with my friends. I can go to the gym and work out with Scott (past partner Scott Doring), relax, go for a drive in one of my cars…I actually have a social life again! I work when I want, if I want. You know, everybody thinks that Tom Zenk is all washed up, that he lost his big chance when he left the WWF

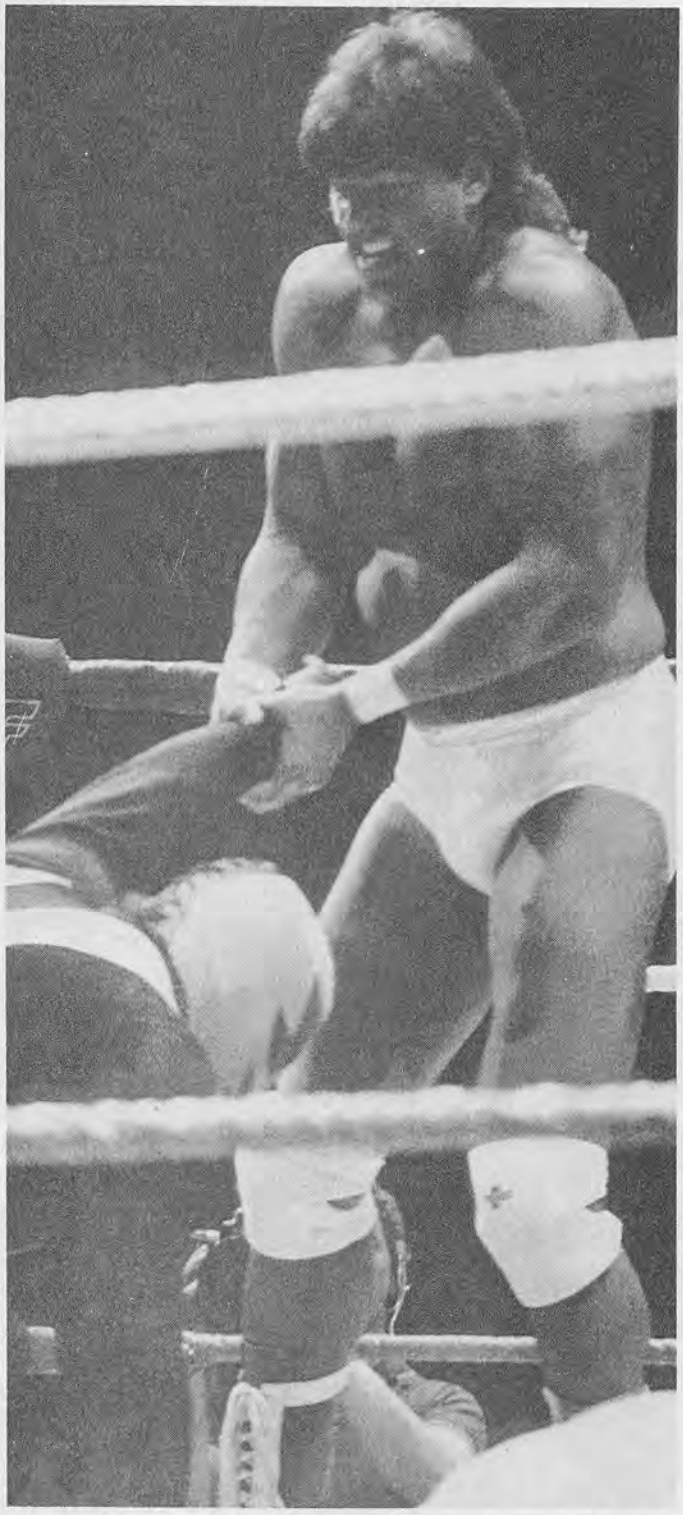
*Zenk and Martel are friends no more.*

*Is it all Tom Zenk's fault?*

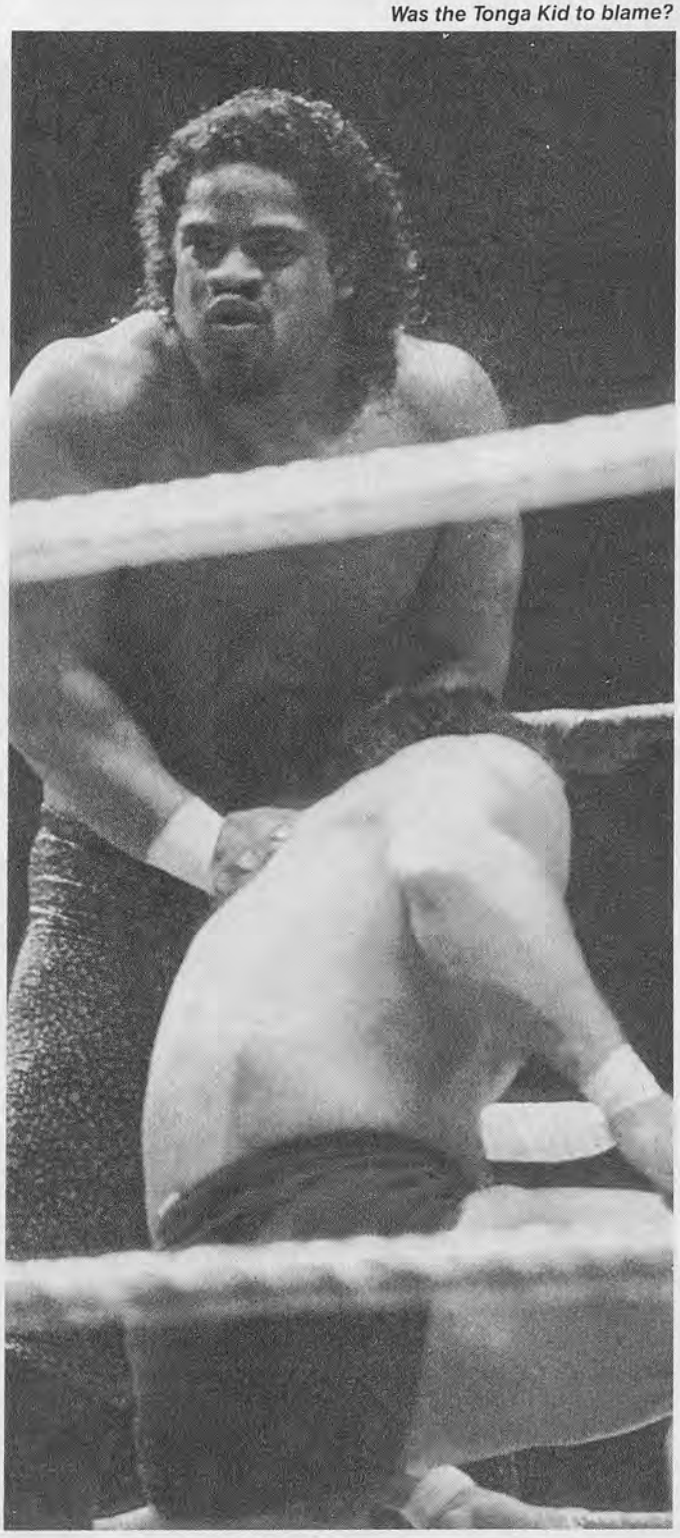
*Martel seems to making it without Zenk, or is he?*

Well, that's nice. But what nobody seems to realize is that I don't have to be a wrestler. I have an education, I've been in the business world—wrestling is something I want to do. I'm going to wrestle on my terms now. I've got a brain and I'm using it. I find it strange that everyone thinks that makes me a quitter! They're just crying because I'm not making them any money! I'm looking out for number one, baby, and that's me! I'm not conceited or arrogant—I'm telling it like it is. And, no, I have nothing at all against Rick, but he's got his life and I've got mine. He has Johanne (his wife) to support. I'm single. He's getting older (35 next March) and is losing some hair. I've got my youth and good looks. He's getting thick around the waist, but my body is very close to competition form. Don't get me wrong, Rick is a great wrestler, better than I'll ever be, but I'm the first to admit that. I get by on my body and good looks rather than wrestling skill. I was born good looking and I make

*Did Martel carry the Can Am connection alone?*

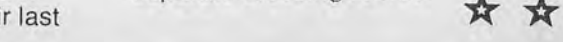


*Was the Tonga Kid to blame?*



the most of it. I capitalize on what I have. Don't blame me if I'm great looking—it's my parents' fault, you know. I had nothing to do with it!"

Zenk, like Jesse Ventura, tells it like it is. He's not wrong, but will Martel want to hear it? Probably not. It seems like there are sour grapes on both sides, but Zenk covers his emotions where Martel wears them on his sleeve. The quest for fame, money and adulation took the ultimate toll on a partnership and a friendship. The results have left Martel struggling to hold on to the popularity he so desperately wants. Everyone knows what happens when you don't draw well for Vince. You become expendable. Look at Jimmy Jack Funk, a good worker reduced to preliminary matches and then ousted when a serious eye injury resulted from an outdoor melee with King Tonga. Notice that Tonga, one of the more popular heels, is still around. Martel and Santana may be making their last ditch attempt at wrestling stardom. Zenk doesn't care. He is what he is. He goes it alone, choosing not to ride on anyone's coattails. Regardless of whose side you are on, the facts remain the same: Martel will never match the popularity of the Can-Am Connection with the Strike Force. Fans may soon be seeing both Zenk and Martel in the independent promotions. But don't be surprised if they come out of separate dressing rooms!



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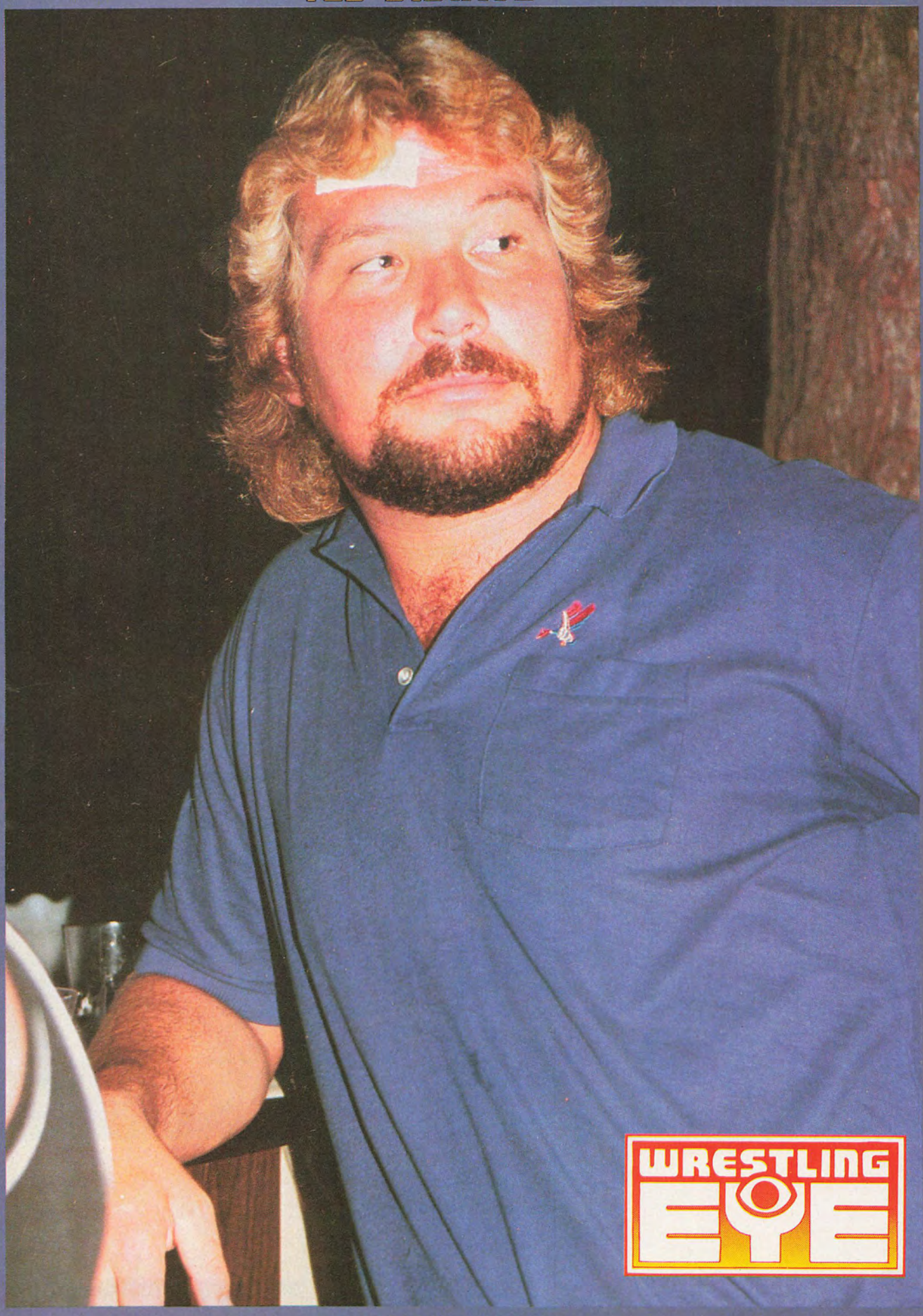



PHOTO BY AL FANALE

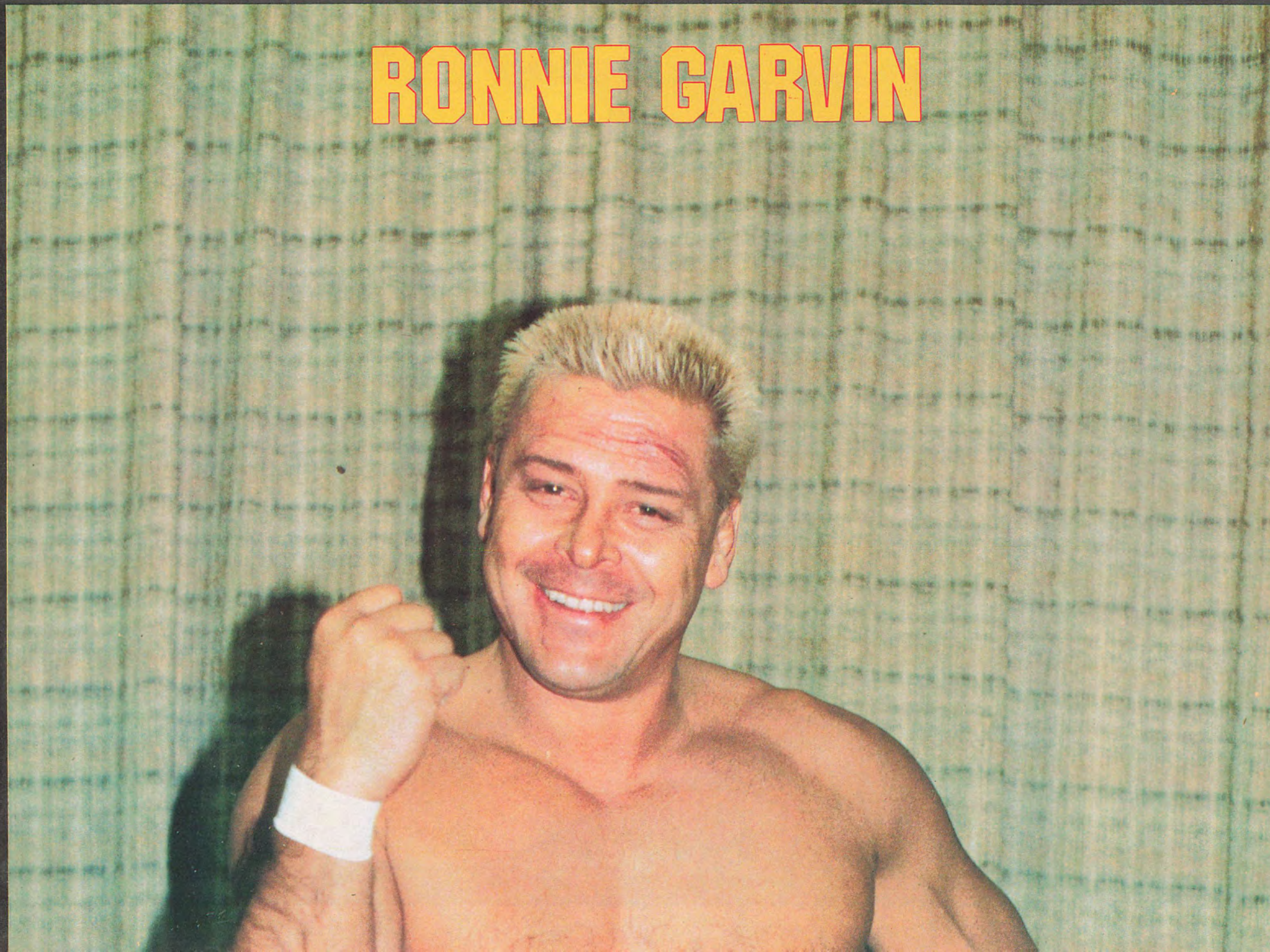
# LAZERTRON

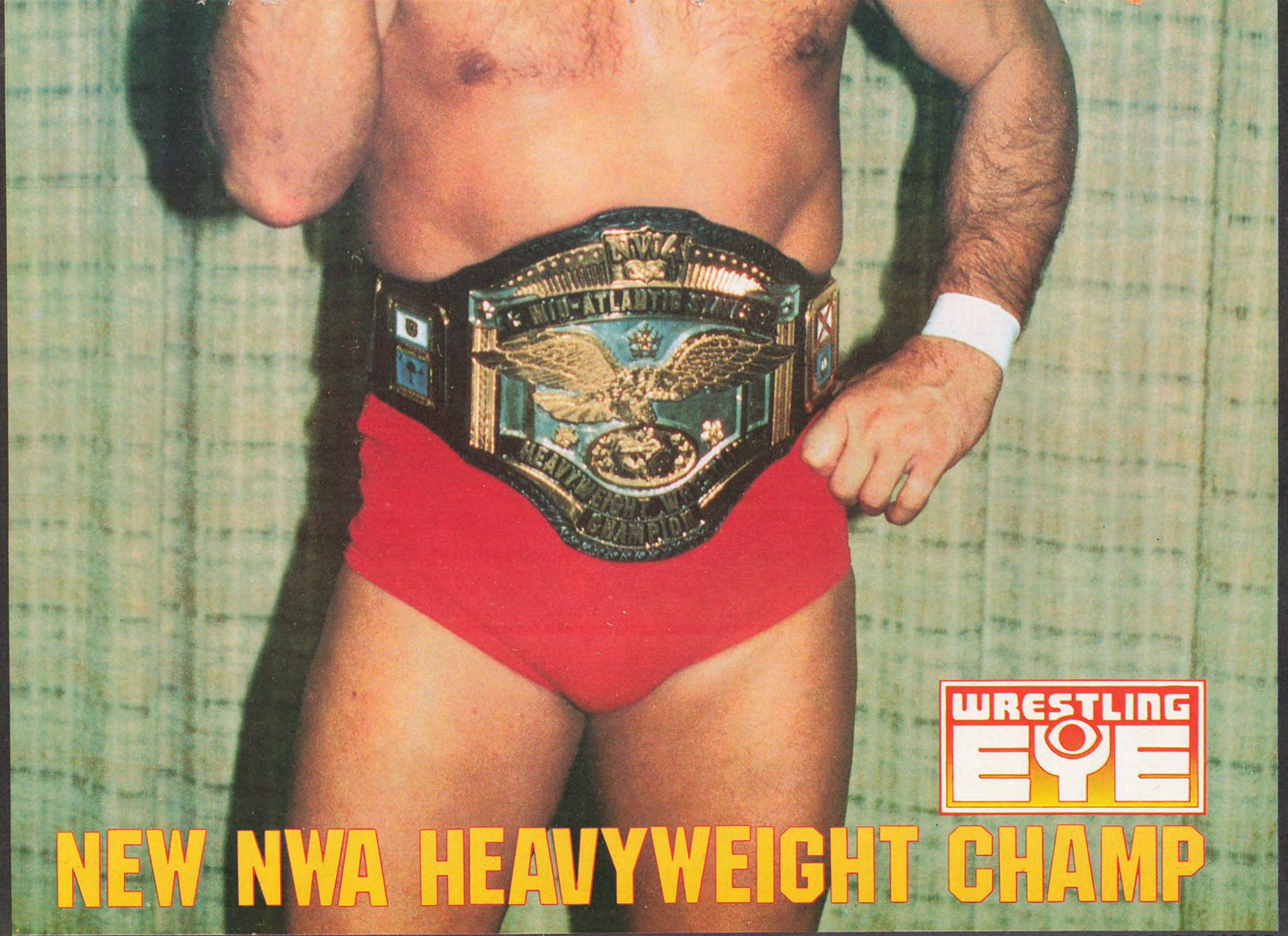
PHOTO BY CARL CARGO

# BRAD ARMSTRONG

PHOTO BY STEVE BEYER

# RONNIE GARVIN



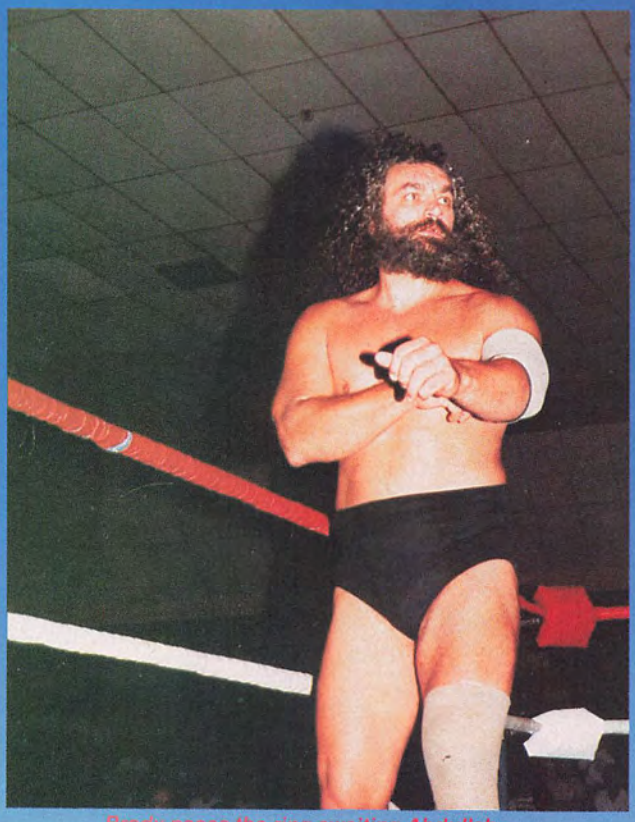



WRESTLING EYE

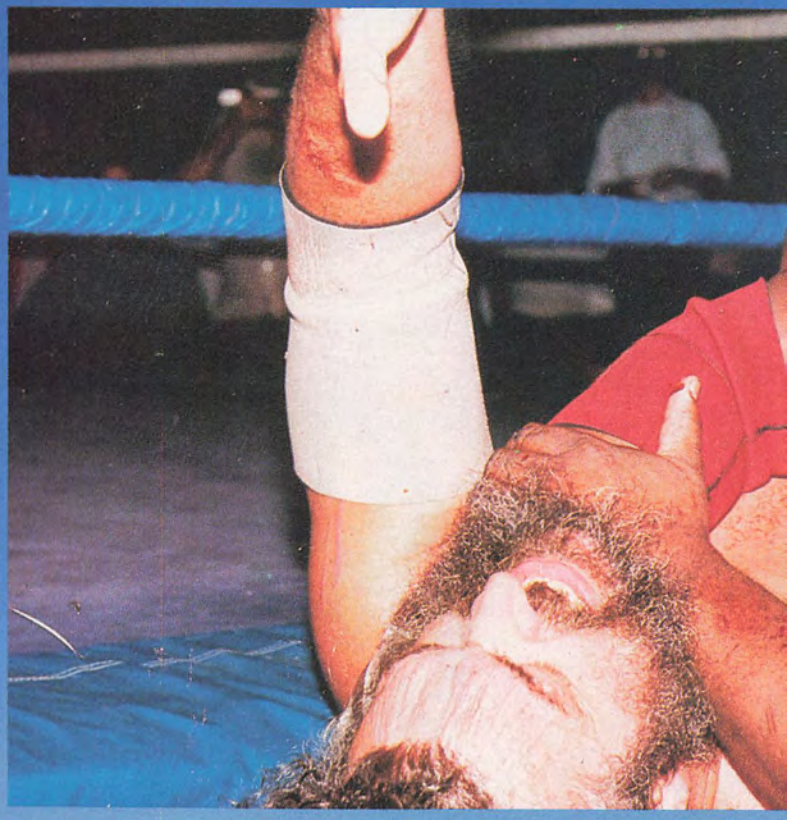
# NEW NWA HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP

PHOTO BY CARL CARGO

# "THE FUED'S FINA
# ABDULLAH



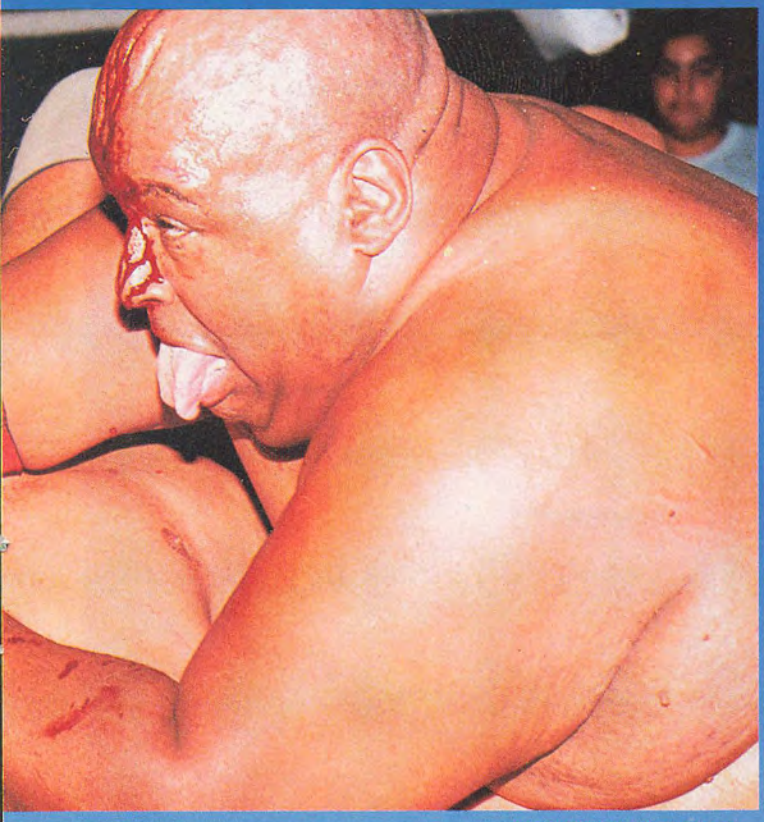
Brody paces the ring awaiting Abdullah.



Immediately the action pours onto the floor.

# ALLY OVER BETWEEN & BRODY

By DeSpirito



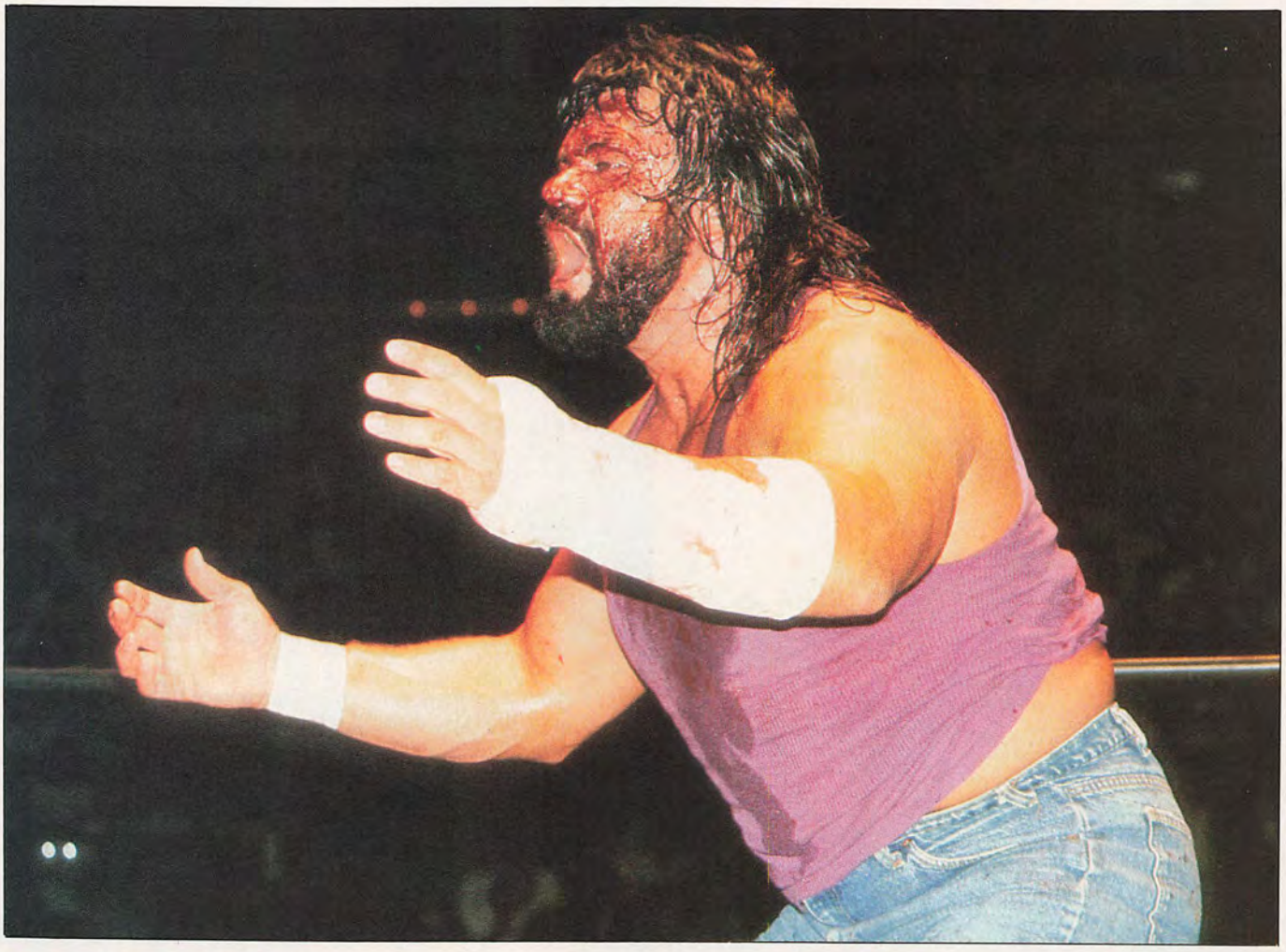
Abdullah chokes Brody.

They battled outside the ring before both men were counted out.

Brody returns the favor.

Abdullah the Butcher, the results, a bloody mess.

# "DR DEATH"



# STEVE WILLIAMS

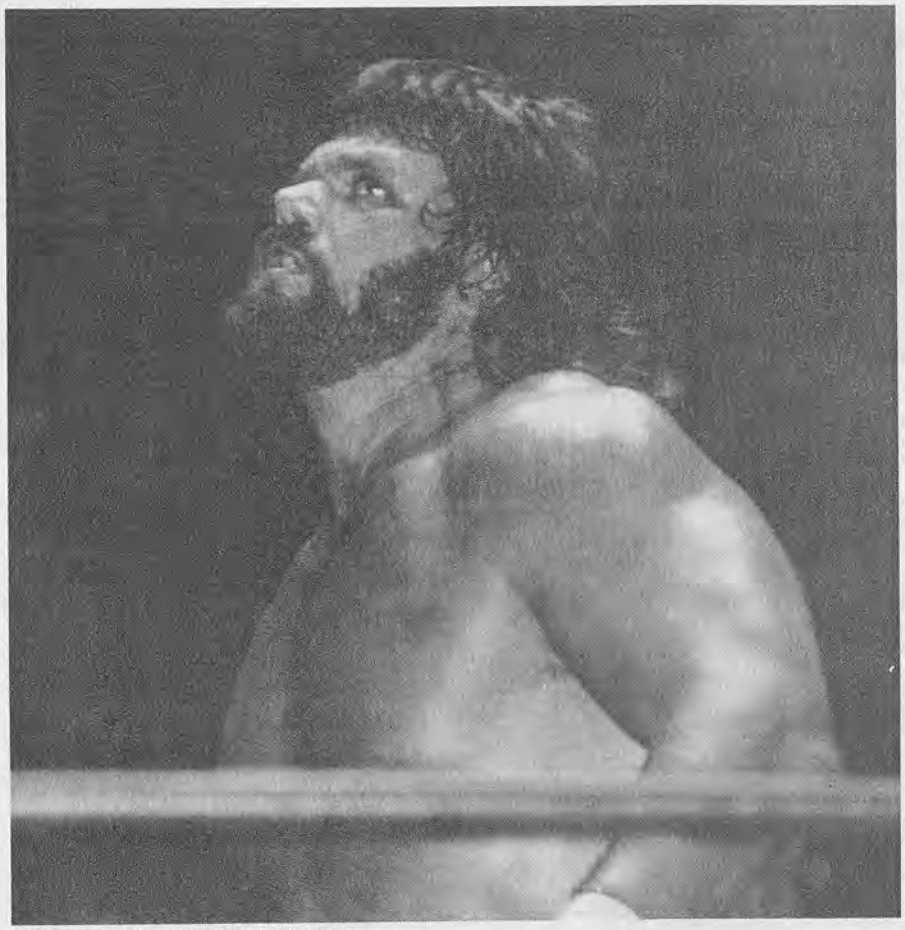
By Don Laible

## AMERICA'S HERO

He has been called the 'Wrestling Superman'. Steve Williams is known to leap from the top rope knocking the wind and victory out of his opponents in a single devastating landing. The physique that is supported by the man who is known world wide as 'Dr. Death' appears chiseled by a patient stone cutter. Without a doubt, when Williams' expresses himself, whether verbally or physically, those in his presence give their undivided attention. Since his arrival on the pro mat circuit some five years back, Williams has accomplished many feats that even he has expressed amazement when glancing back on his gains.

It's no secret that 'Doc' was one of the most celebrated collegiate athletes of all-time. Oklahoma University is where he starred. Playing football under noted Head Coach Barry Switzer is an honor most any amateur would-be grid iron great would long for. Not only did he handle himself in fine fashion on the field, but also on the school's wrestling team.

Rarely can a person live up to the pressures and demands put upon him and still perform well in the academic areas. When his



*Williams is the new U.W.F. champ.*

National Collegiate Athletic Association career came to an end, the legend of Steve Williams on the O.U. campus remained athletic moments of glory that continued to be fresh in people's minds, thanks to record books and coaching staffs.

When leaving college, 'Doc' tried his hand in professional football. The New Jersey Generals of the United States Football League is where 'Doc' played. Chuck Fairbanks, a former head coach at Colorado, was familiar with 'Doc's' talents and signed him when the Generals made him coach. Although enjoying his time in shoulder pads, 'Doc' never gave up on his goal to make it in another pro sport he was so fond of—wrestling.

Before long the 'wrestling bug' bit 'Doc' sharper than the 'football bug'. It was good-bye Jersey, hello wrestling world. When a contract was offered by then Mid-South Wrestling Promotions, based in Louisiana and presided over by Cowboy Bill Watts, 'Doc' didn't hesitate to say thank you. He has come along steadily but surely. 'Doc' hasn't taken anyone or anything for granted. Working his way up from opening matches to main events involving 'Big' Bubba Rogers, One Man Gang, Dusty Rhodes and The Freebirds, 'Doc' has gained the respect and admiration of not only his peers but by a daily swelling legion of fans.

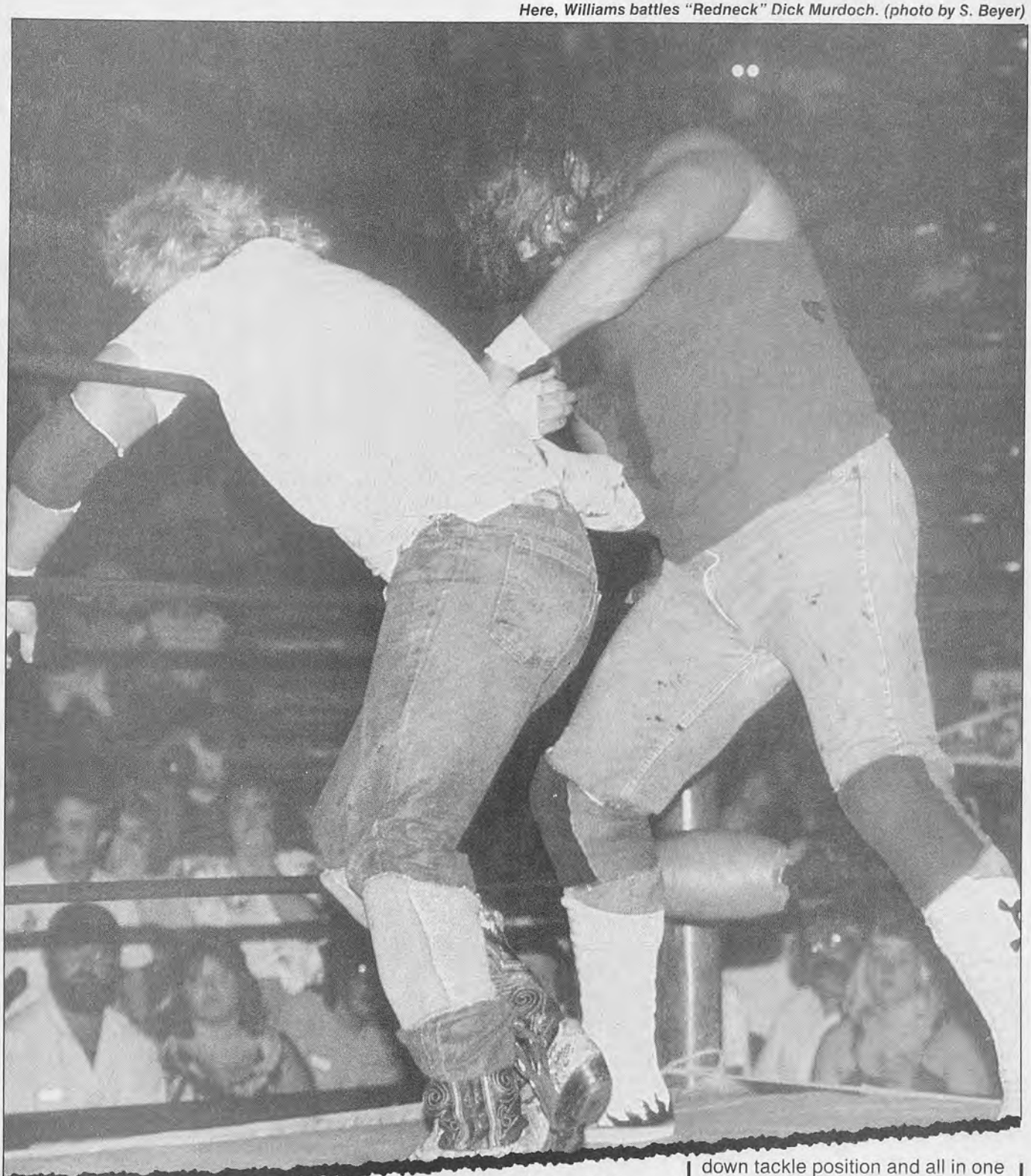
The name Steve 'Dr. Death' Williams is no longer a regional subject but an international topic in wrestling arenas everywhere. This past summer all the hard work and effort put forth by 'Doc' paid off in 'aces'.

During the National Wrestling Alliance's BASH tour, 'Doc' won his first major championship. Then universal Wrestling Federation Champ 'Big' Bubba Rogers was asked by the NWA to honor them by putting his belt on the line, as part of one of their summer spectaculars against 'Doc' in Oklahoma. What a costly mistake that turned out to be for Rogers and his manager Skandor Akbar. In his 'home town', a psyched up 'Doc' took the UWF strap and became one of the four major claimants to the world heavyweight championship.

In recent times, wrestling 'bad boys' such as 'Hotstuff' Eddie Gilbert, Dick Murdoch and Terry Taylor have been in hot pursuit of 'Doc' and his belt. When the gold belt and all the riches it brings is on the line, people like Gilbert and

*Dr Death himself.*

*Here, Williams battles "Redneck" Dick Murdoch. (photo by S. Beyer)*



Murdoch have proven that they will stop at nothing to better their odds for a victory. 'Doc', during one title matchup had his arm broken, thanks to a sneak attack from ringside by Gilbert and Murdoch. Being as tough and dedicated as he is, 'Doc' continued to fulfill his booking agreements, cast and all.

With the close working agreement between the NWA and the UWF, each organization has been swapping talent. With the NWA being seen on a national cable system weekly, the appearances by 'Doc' on the show has exposed his abilities to millions of fans. You won't find much of an argument inside the wrestling community as to who is stronger and more feared by their opponents. When he weakens his foes to the verge of defeat standing across the ring from them, 'Doc' gets a grid iron flashback, positions himself in a down tackle position and all in one motion charges forward and hard as if they were the quarterback. Needless to say, once contact is made, the referee's three count is all academic with 'Doc's' opponents stretched out on their backs.

Steve 'Dr. Death' Williams is a wrestling success story. His accomplishments appear endless. A tough man on the mat apron, Williams is a sensitive, caring person who continues to be the best that he can be.

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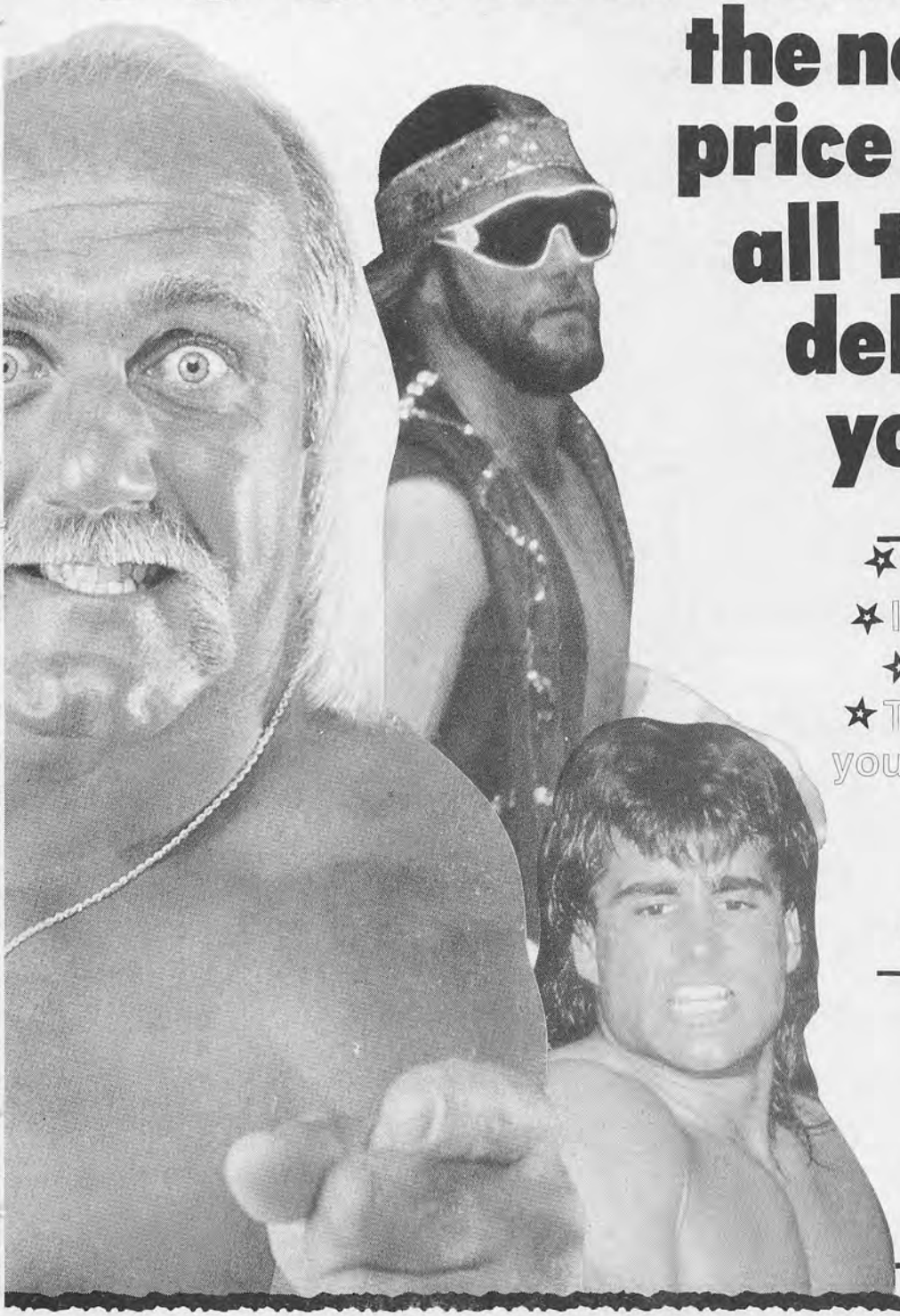

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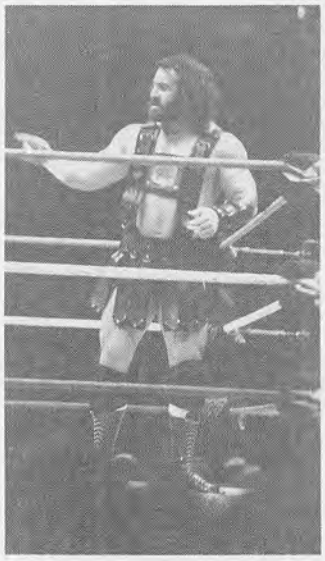
# WRESTLING EYE'S

## WWF

**Champ—Hulk Hogan**

1. Ted Dibiase
2. The HonkyTonk Man
3. Randy Savage
4. The One Man Gang
5. Killer Kahn
6. Jake Roberts
7. Koko B. Ware
8. Rick Rude
9. King Kong Bundy
10. Bam Bam Bigelow
11. Billy Graham
12. Brutus Beefcake
13. Hercules Hernandez
14. Jim Duggan

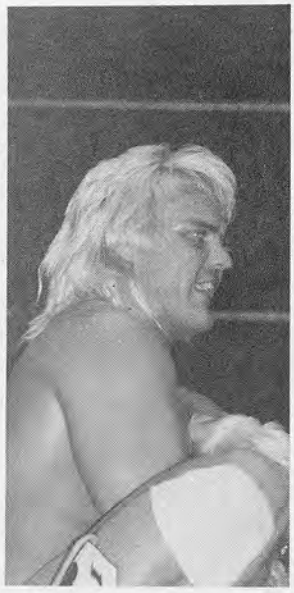
13.



## NWA

**Champ**—Ron Garvin

1. Ric Flair
2. Lex Lugar
3. Dusty Rhodes
4. Nikita Koloff
5. Tully Blanchard
6. Barry Windham
7. Dr. 'Death' Steve Williams
8. Terry Taylor
9. Eddie Gilbert
10. Jimmy Garvin
11. Arn Anderson
12. Sting
13. Carlos Colon
14. Michael Hayes
15. Jimmy Valiant



## UWF

1. Dr. Death Steve Williams
2. Big Bubba
3. Terry Gordy
4. Terry Taylor
5. Chris Adams
6. Sting
7. Dick Murdoch
8. Rick Steiner
9. Shane Douglas
10. Steve Cox

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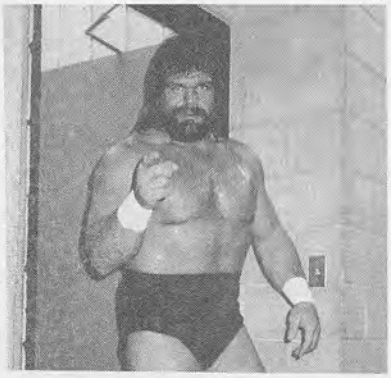

## NWF

1. D. C. Drake
2. Sgt. Slaughter
3. Bruiser Brody
4. Abdullah the Butcher
5. David Shultz
6. Nord the Barbarian
7. Col. DeBeers
8. Cousin Luke
9. Ivan Putski
10. Adrian Street

1.

## EWA

1. David Shultz
2. Sgt. Slaughter
3. Afa the Wild Somoan
4. Jules Strongbow
5. The Cheetah Kid
6. Tommy Cairo
7. Tom Brandi
8. Ox Baker
9. Mike Kaluha
10. Davey Gee

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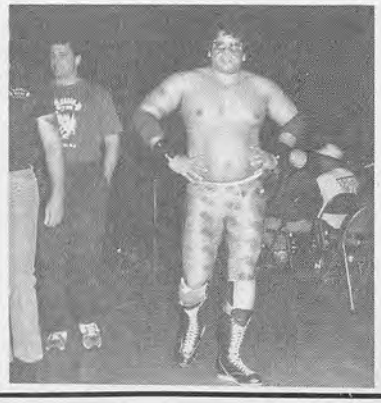


# OFFICIAL RATINGS

## NEWA

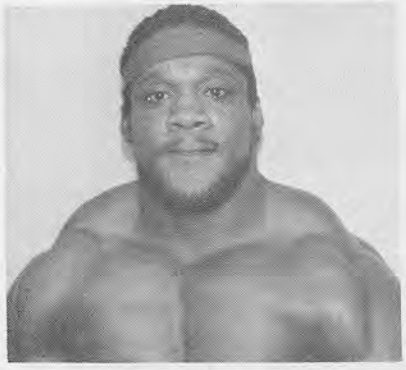
1. Sgt. Slaughter
2. The Iron Sheik
3. David Shultz
4. Afa the Wild Samoan
5. Tonga Kid II
6. Jules Strongbow
7. The Cheetah Kid
8. Larry Winters
9. The Russian Assasin
10. Mr. Anthony

7.

## WORLD CLASS

1. Al Perez
2. Kevin Von Erich
3. Bruiser Brody
4. Vince Apollo
5. Al Madril
6. Steve Simpson
7. Tony Atlas
8. Ted Arcedi
9. Shawn Simpson
10. Brian Adias

7.



## World WOMEN Ratings

1. Sherri Martel
2. Misty Blue
3. Wendi Richter
4. Nina
5. Linda Dallas
6. The Fabulous Moolah
7. Velvet McIntyre
8. Kat Leroux
9. Debbie Combs
10. Brandi Mae

9.

## TOP TEN MANAGERS

1. Bobby Heenan
2. J.J. Dillon
3. Jim Cornette
4. Jimmy Hart
5. Johnny Valiant
6. Paul Jones
7. Slick
8. Paul E. Dangerously
9. Wendall Weatherbee
10. Sheik Ali Abdullah

2.

## Top 15 Tag TEAMS

1. The Hart Foundation
2. The Rock 'n' Roll Express
3. The Road Warriors
4. Arn Anderson & Tully Blanchard
5. The Midnight Express
6. The New Breed
7. The Fantastics
8. The Sheepherders
9. Demolition
10. Dino Bravo & Greg Valentine
11. Paul Roma & Jimmy Powers
12. Dennis Condrey & Randy Rose
13. Nick Kiniski & Kevin Kelly

1.

## TOP 15

**The WORLD'S TOP 15 (RATED BY WRESTLING ABILITY)**

1. Ric Flair
2. Barry Windham
3. Ricky Steamboat
4. Terry Taylor
5. Bret Hart
6. Tully Blanchard
7. Les Thornton
8. Owen Hart
9. Tatsumi Fuginami
10. Adrian Street
11. Riki Choshu
12. Bobby Eaton
13. Randy Savage
14. Ted Dibiase
15. Antonino Rocca Jr.

7.

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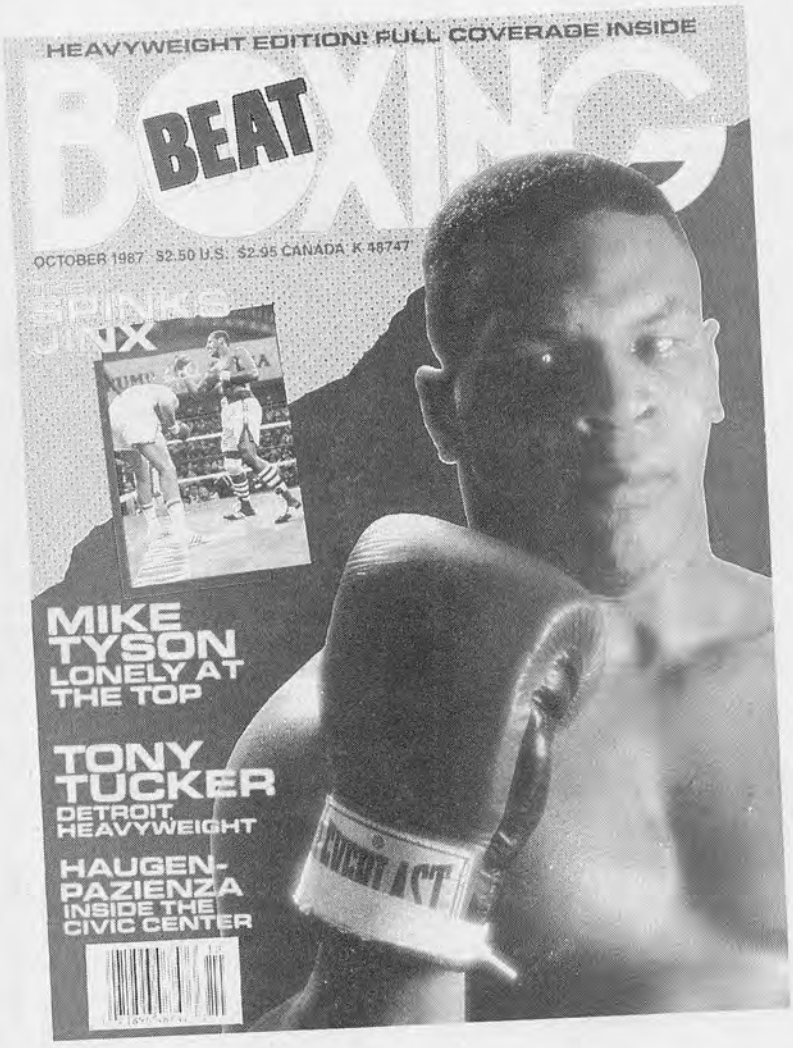


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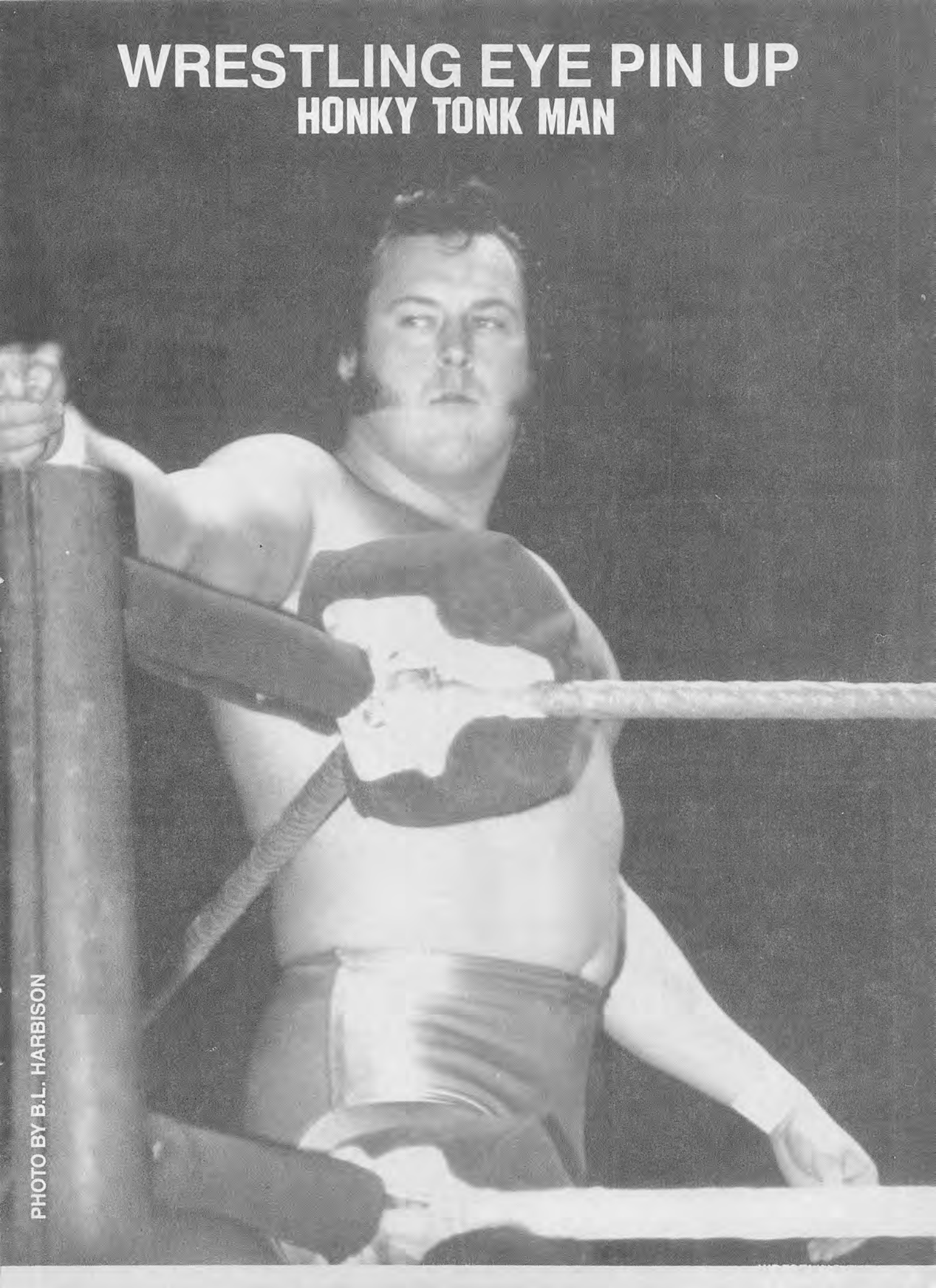
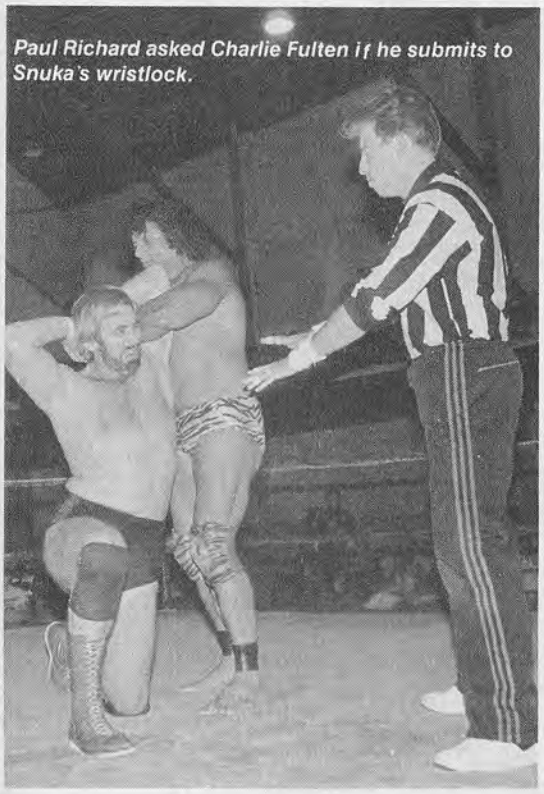


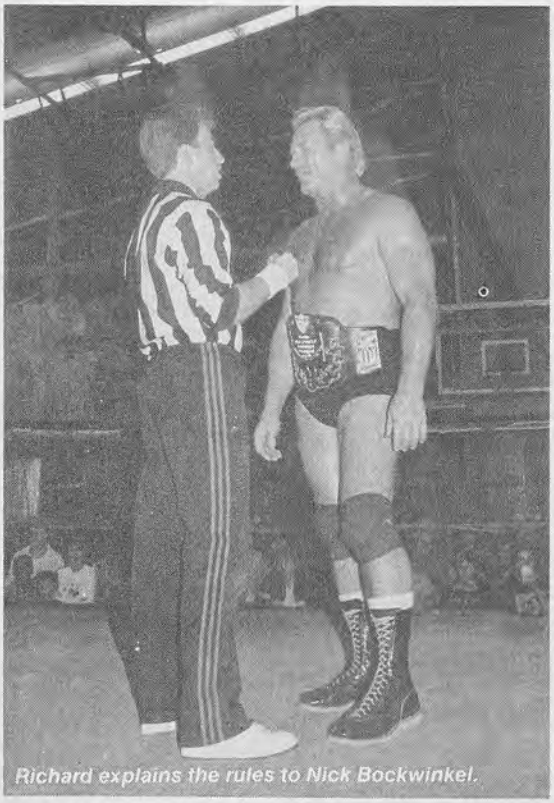
PHOTO BY B.L. HARBISON

# PAUL RICHARD

## REFEREEING IS THE NAME OF THE GAME



*Paul Richard asked Charlie Fulten if he submits to Snuka's wristlock.*



*Richard explains the rules to Nick Bockwinkel.*

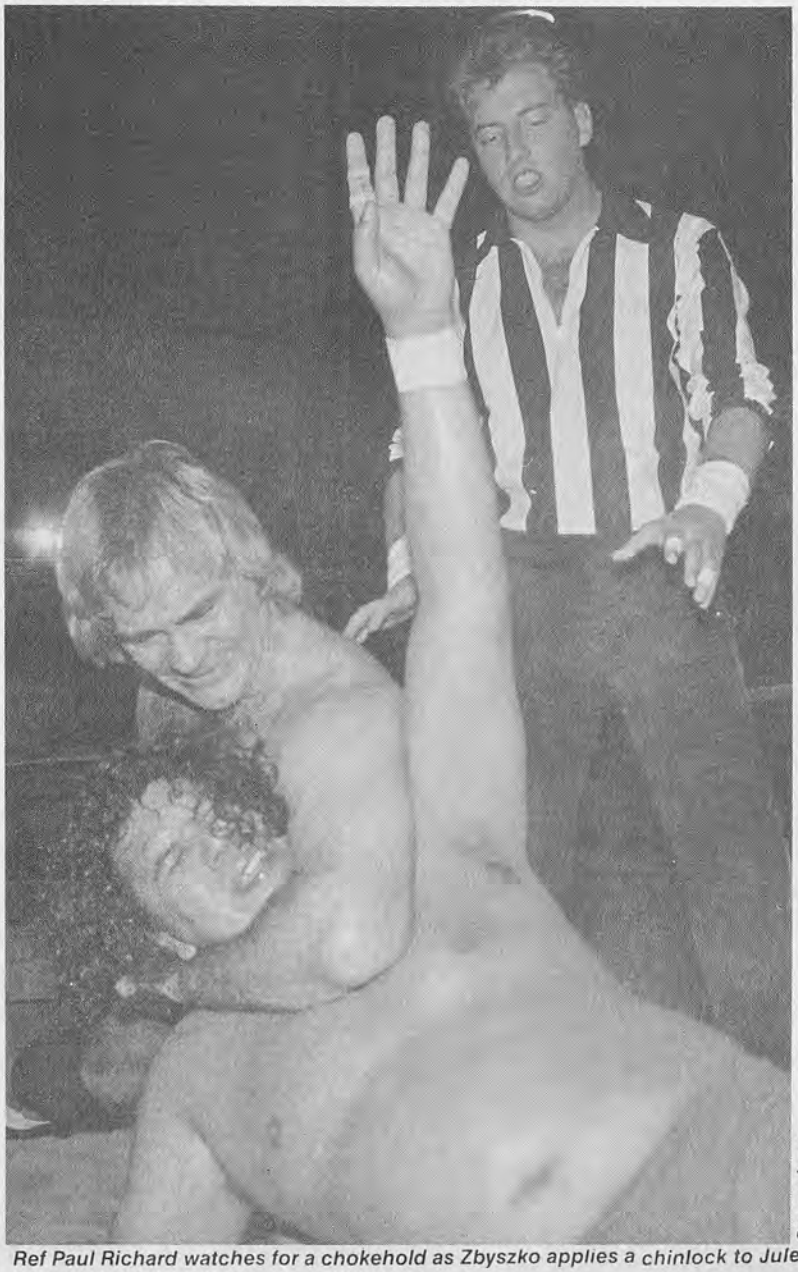
**By Scott Dickinson**

**Photos by Paul Fay**

Who is the most promising, as well as one of the most popular referees in the country? If you answer Paul Richard, you're right on target!

Paul Richard was only 16 when he started working in the rough and tumble world of professional wrestling. At that time he was the youngest referee in the sport. Seven years later, he's one of the best.

Born in Lynn, Massachusetts, Paul was only 15 when his father brought him to the Killer Kowalski school of Professional Wrestling. When Kowalski saw the 120 pound Richard, who then wanted to wrestle, he persuaded him to try refereeing.



*Ref Paul Richard watches for a chokehold as Zbyszko applies a chinlock to Jules Strongbow.*

"Paul's success doesn't surprise me. He came to me a small young kid and I tried to discourage him. I didn't know how bright he was or how quickly he could catch on. But he kept coming back. I told him to consider becoming a ref, but there was no need for refs at the time. But he never gave up until he got a shot."

So after months of training, Richard got his start at the North Shore Sports Center in his hometown of Lynn. "I definitely felt he was ready," recalls Kowalski. "He's aggressive. He gets right into the action and he's determined. I could never discourage him away from the ring. I'm not at all surprised he got his break so young."

Since that fateful day in 1980, the former free-lance photographer and security officer has refereed bouts involving such top stars as Sean Michaels & Marty Jannetty (The Midnight Rockers), Playboy Buddy Rose, Pretty Boy Doug Sommers, Boris Zukhov, Larry Zbyszko, Nick Bockwinkel, Ivan Putski, Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka and Sgt Slaughter.

"For the first time I looked around and realized I made it. It took all this time but things are starting to happen. The first time I worked with Snuka I felt chills running down my spine. All the announcer had to say was 'In this corner, from the Fiji Islands' and the crowd just went wild. All those people! Then I remembered that before the match, I heard him (Snuka) ask another ref if he was working his match. He said, "No, you've got the new guy." Snuka seemed really disappointed. I knew then I had something to prove."

But after the bout, Snuka said 'Brother, you work real smooth. You were right on top of it. You did a good job." Right then, Richard recalls, I knew I belonged."

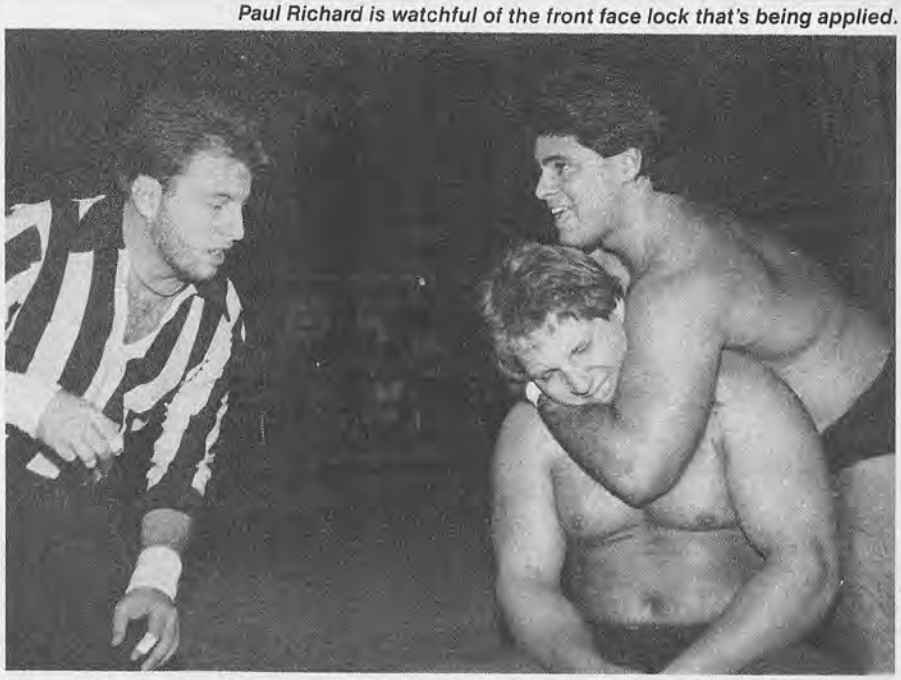
But not all has been rosy for the now 23 year old Richard. He has had his share of injuries. The Super Destroyer once hit him with a chair. That was one of the easier ones. The Dungeon Master bodyslammed him head first so hard "I thought it broke my neck."

Richard has been recognized in restaurants and shopping malls. He loves to meet and talk with fans. He has spent a great deal of time signing autographs and posing for pictures. But the fans aren't the only people behind Richard.

"The TV announcers are really behind me. They get on some refs, but they always make a big deal out of me, because I was once the youngest in the sport and because I'm not afraid of the action. Too many guys try to step out of the way. I fell I'm part of the action."

Wrestling Eye wishes Paul Richard much god luck in his future wrestling endeavors.

*Paul Richard and Sgt. Slaughter.*



***Paul Richard is watchful of the front face lock that's being applied.***

# PHANTOM of the ring

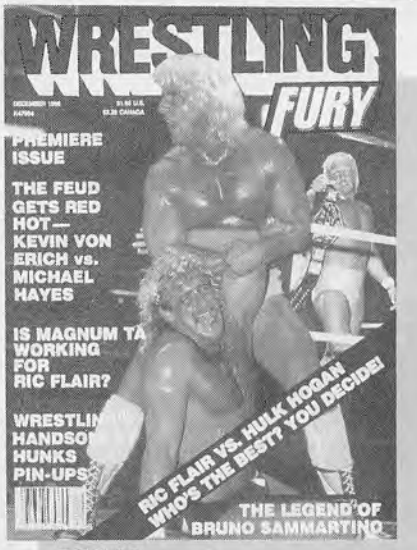
Well, this month there is no earth shattering news, but I still have to write this column so here I go...I heard the W.W.F.'s album "Piledriver", and boy is this terrible! I wonder how much Vince had to pay 'American Bandstand', to endorse such an atrocity...I recently heard **Exotic Adrian Street's** Album, "Shake Wrestle and Roll", and Exotic Adrian is really talented. The songs are of course very funny and 'flaming', if you know what I mean. You can purchase the album on either record or cassette. Contact 'Bizarre Bazzar' at P.O. BOX 6188, Gulf Breeze, Florida 32561. Such songs on Adrian's album include "A Sweet Transvestite With A Broken Nose", "Sadist In Sequins", and "Something Very Strange About A Cowboy". The album is also available in video form. Correction on the W.W.F.'s 'Piledriver' album. I did like one song, "Demolition" by Rick Derringer and Ax & Smash. One last comment on the "Piledriver" album, Vince McMahon also has a song on the album, entitled of all things "Stand Back". This is definitely a message to the National Wrestling Alliance...I've heard, speaking of the N.W.A. that **Rick Flair** is thinking about retirement after his loss to **Ron Garvin.** If I lost to **Ron Garvin** I think I would consider retiring too! But seriously, **Flair** is considering retirement, or at least a long vacation, for two reasons. One **Flair's** injured arm that is currently in a state of paralysis, is getting worse. I understand he has no feeling in his arm at all at this time. Also, **Flair** is never home to spend time with his family and his wife, Beth. I understand this might also be a reason for a possible retirement. If he does retire permanently, the N.W.A. will probably collapse...I just heard, that the American Wrestling Association (A.W.A.) just merged with International Wrestling in Canada. I also heard the A.W.A. has plans to merge with World Class Wrestling in Texas. Could you imagine **Verne Gagne** and **Fritz Von Erich** promoting together. That's more of an atrocity than the "Piledriver" album...**Ted Dibiase** is great. That 'Million Dollar Man' gimmick is better than any of them. It even tops **Kamala's** gimmick. Speaking of **Kamala,** I heard that he has been booted from the World Wrestling Federation...The Freebirds have broken up. **Michael Hayes** has signed an exclusive contract with Crockett Promotions, but **Terry Gordy** and **Buddy Roberts** refused to because of their overseas commitments in Japan...The A.W.A. is currently negotiating with 'Nature Boy' **Buddy Landell.** Probably they'll feud **Landell** with **Tommy Rich.** A sort of a bogus Flair-Rich match, which of course of a classic ...**Boris Zuchov** by the time you read this article should be wrestling in the W.W.F., and tag with comrade, **Nikolai Volkoff.** Myself, I think Zuchov, along with the 'late' **Vladimir Petrov,** are the two worst imitations of Russians ever. As a matter of fact the two of the worst imitations for wrestlers ever too...I was impressed by the new tag team of **Nick Kiniski** and **Kevin Kelly** managed by **Medusa Miceli.** Kelly and Kiniski make a great team looks wise, but they have a lot to be desired in the charisma department...Since, **Ronnie Garvin** is the new champion of the N.W.A. who will be his predecessor? I hear that **Lex Lugar,** if not **Flair** of course will probably defeat **Garvin.** You know if **Luger** could only wrestle, he would make a good champion...**Chris Adams** is currently wrestling independent. I hear he may sign with World Class ...The Universal Wrestling Federation is now telecasting in New York on WPIX channel 11. The U.W.F. definitely has the best show going today...I heard that **Eddie Masfield** has released some sort of trashy video, that is available in most video stores. I dont' think Mansfield will literally be around much longer...Wrestlemania IV is supposed to take place on March, 27th, 1988. The location, who knows?...I understand that the live show tickets for the survivor series sold very poorly. You could by a ringside seat at the door...Many state commissions are cracking down on these blood tests due to the AIDS scare...**King Kong**

**Bundy** is currently making advertisements for Vendex Pacific's new Headstart Computers and Easy Does it peripheral computers... **Todd Okerlund,** the twenty-two year old son of **Mean Gene Okerlund,** is one of the members of the U.S. Olympic Hockey team ...I promised this plug. There is currently a new service available to anyone who would like to have a professional wrestler for personal appearances. The costs to get such stars for parties, grand openings, etc., are really economical and really not much more than if you hired a clown or a juggling monkey. For more information on personal appearances for anywhere in the U.S.A., you may contact, the personal appearance office of Jonathan Peter Gold Entertainment, Inc., Hersh Towers Bldg., Suite 1107, 125 Broad Street, Elizabeth, N.J. 07201. Or you can also contact J.P.G.E.'s office by calling 201-354-4005.

Hulk Hogan put Richard Belzer in a sleeper hold on Belzer's syndicated talk show. Belzer wound up in the hospital and is suing the Hulkster for 5 million dollars.

*Adrian Street has a new video out on the market.*

# WRESTLING FURY BACK ISSUES

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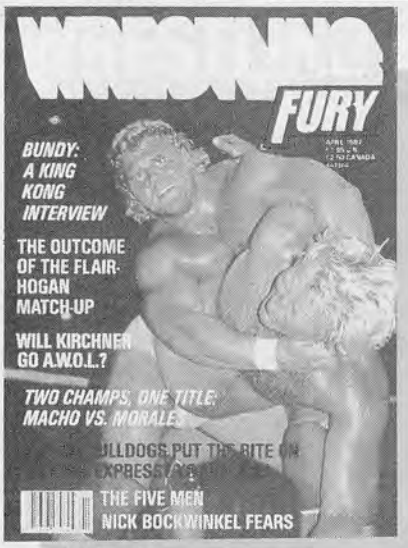


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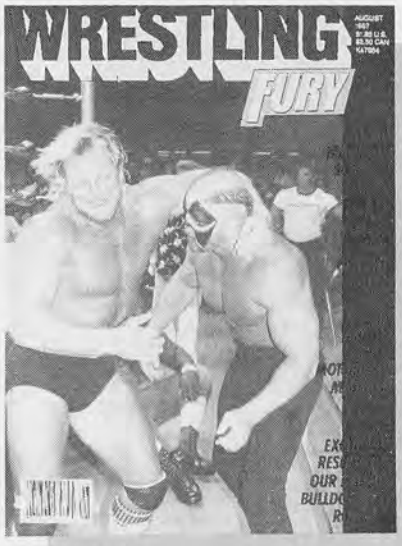


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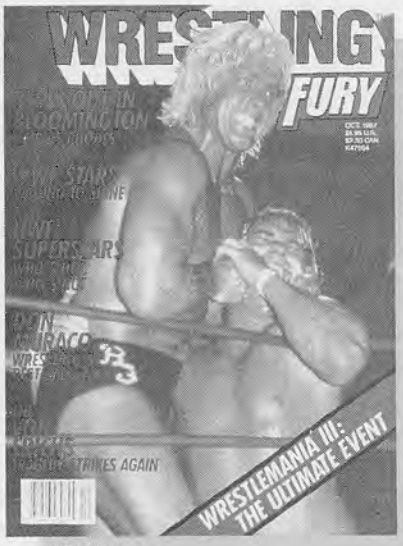


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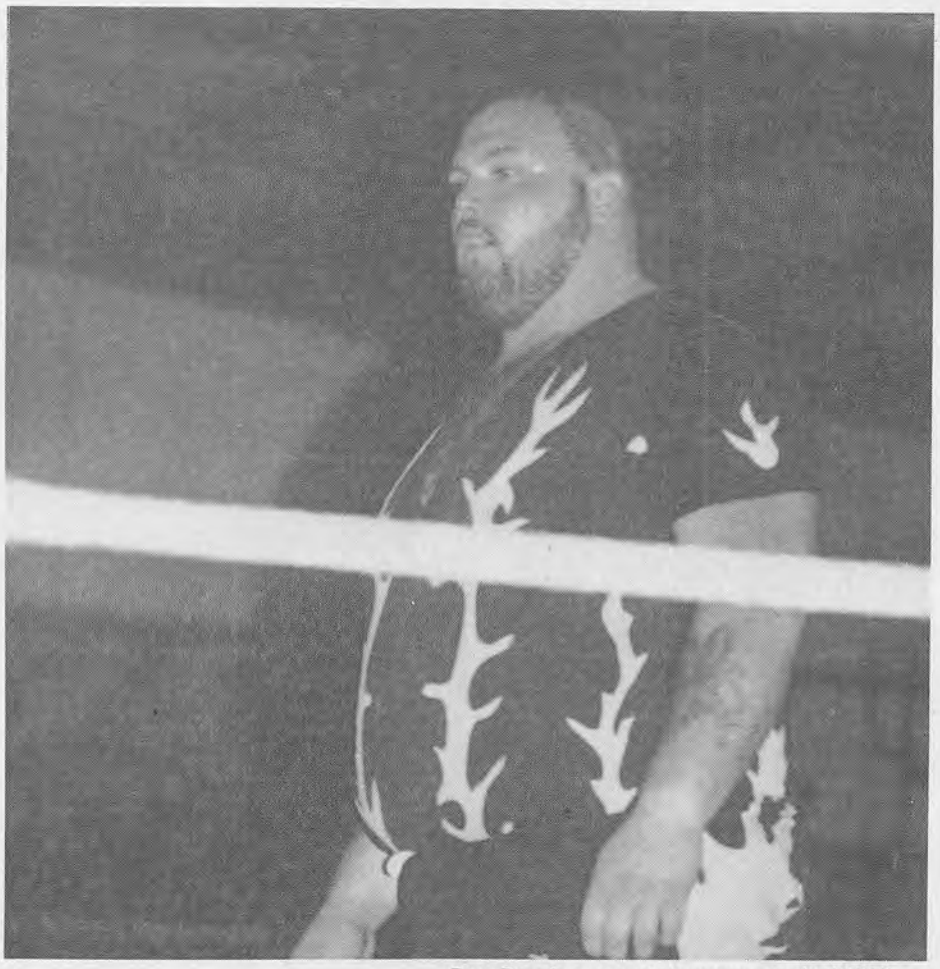
# BAM BAM BIGELOW



*Bam Bam is a recent newcomer to the W.W.F.*

## A NEW THREAT TO THE HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE

**By Scott Dickinson**

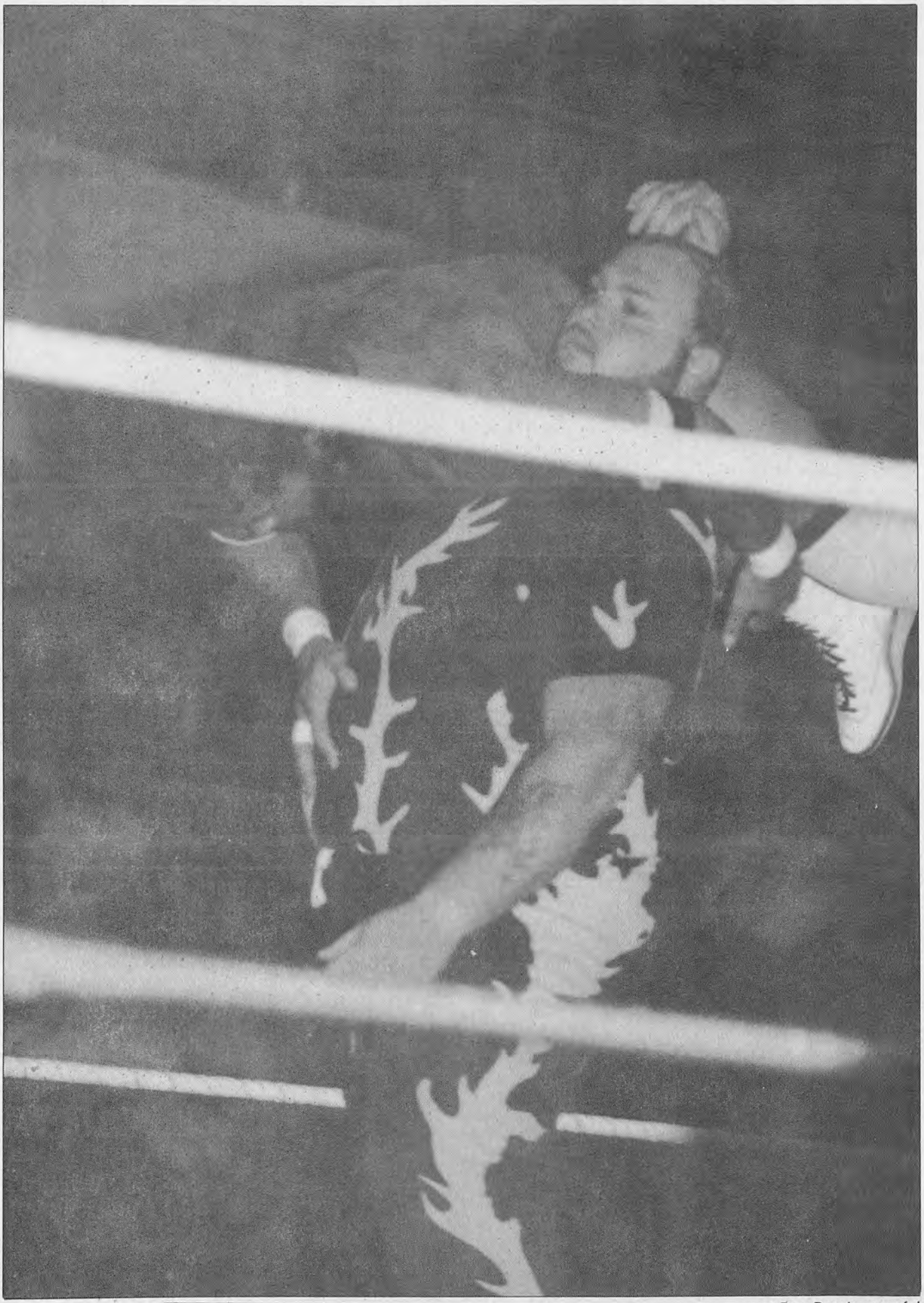
**Photos by DeSpirito**

Who is the World Wrestling Federation's biggest acquisition? It's none other than Scott "Bam Bam" Bigelow of Asbury Park, New Jersey. Why would the WWF want Bigelow, a man who really hasn't made a big splash on the wrestling scene (at least for a major group)? Does the fireball on his head have anything to do with it? It certainly isn't his wrestling ability, because Titan has made bigger deals about guys with much less, or downright no talent what so ever. For example, Hillbilly Jim, Outback Jack, and Junkyard Dog all have little or no talent in wrestling. Out of the three, only JYD was acquired because of his past history as a leading babyface of a major promotion.

At the age of 25, Bigelow has only two years experience on the mat scene. When reached by this reporter, Titan Sports claims it only takes wrestlers with five years or more experience within the squared circle.

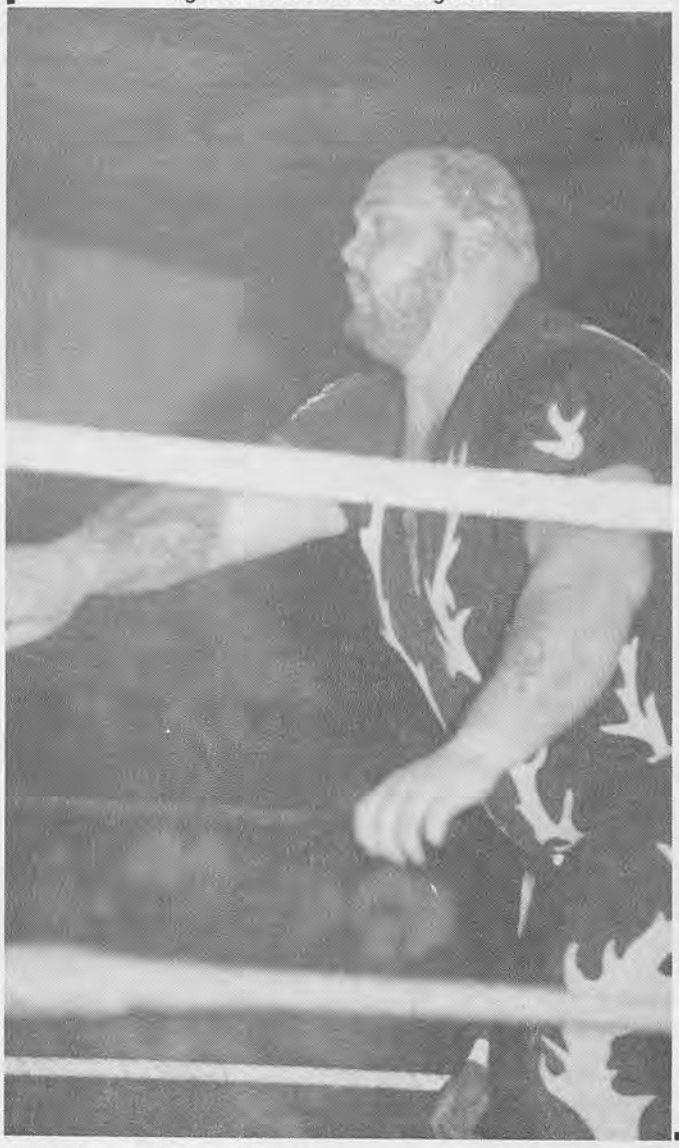
Although Bigelow was the hottest rookie out of the famed "Monster Factory" headed by Pretty Boy Larry Sharpe, he really has little in wrestling ability. Although one must say he is one of the, if not the most agile big man in the history of wrestling, he really doesn't know how to work a match.

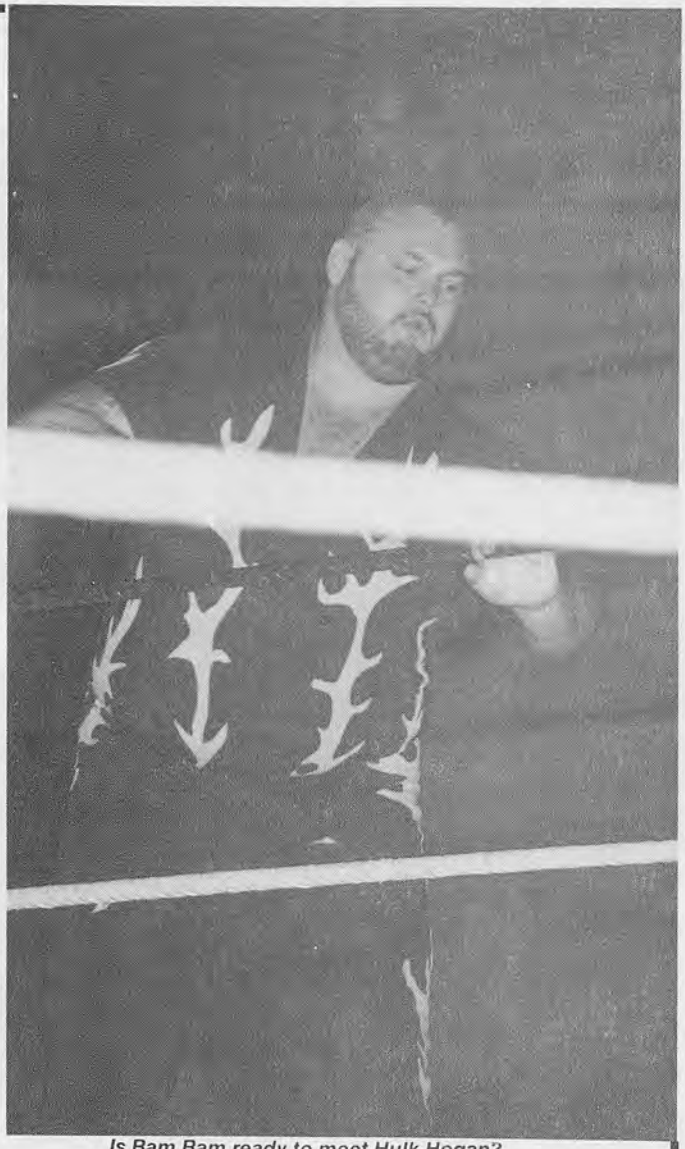
The question on Bigelow now is not whether he will be a major star, but whether he will improve to be a great worker, and thus probably the best big man in history. There is no doubt with a teacher like Sharpe, he has the potential of



Bam Bam is powerful.

*Bigelow moves well for a big man.*





*Is Bam Bam ready to meet Hulk Hogan?*

being one of the all-time greats, but that has yet to materialize.

Bigelow's wrestling career began on the small independents in the Northeast, wrestling with Sharpe as his manager. From there he went to work for Warrior Sports, better known as Jarrett Promotions in Memphis. While there he feuded and later teamed with Jerry "The King Lawler, Memphis' answer to Hulk Hogan. It was while here that wrestling experts claimed that he would be one of the brightest stars of the 1990's.

But Bigelow's career stagnated as he moved on to the Dallas market, working for the Von Erichs and World Class Championship Wrestling. While in 1983, World Class was without a doubt the best wrestling in the country, in recent years the promotion has been hurt with its insistence of pushing the Von Erich boys. While in Dallas, Bigelow used the name Crusher Yurkov, again managed by Sharpe. While Sharpe was considered a great manager, Bigelow's work rate dropped considerably.

Going back to Memphis was a good move for the near 400 pounder. But his stay was short lived as his aspirations of going to the "big time" and the WWF were too strong for him.

Before coming to Titan, Bigelow had a good thing going in Japan, where he had a great feud going with Antonio Inoki, the leading star of the New Japan Pro Wrestling Group. Larry Sharpe wanted Bigelow to stay in Japan while going to Memphis in between. But as the Pretty Boy said, "Sometimes we disagree but I always let the wrestler make the final decision." Thus Bigelow went to Titan.

What does Bigelow's future in the WWF include? He will no doubt feud with the One Man Gang, as they met in the big 10 man elimination match at "The Survivors" on Thanksgiving. He will probably also end up feuding with another big man King Kong Bundy.

But most of Bigelow's career has been on the other side of the fence, as a heel. Will the greed not stop? Will he finally break down and want a shot at Hulk Hogan. Of course, in the WWF, he'll have to be Hogan's enemy, thus he will probably turn by Valentine's Day.

What a match up for Wrestlemania 4-Hulk Hogan vs. Bam Bam Bigelow!

It could happen, we'll just have to wait and see!

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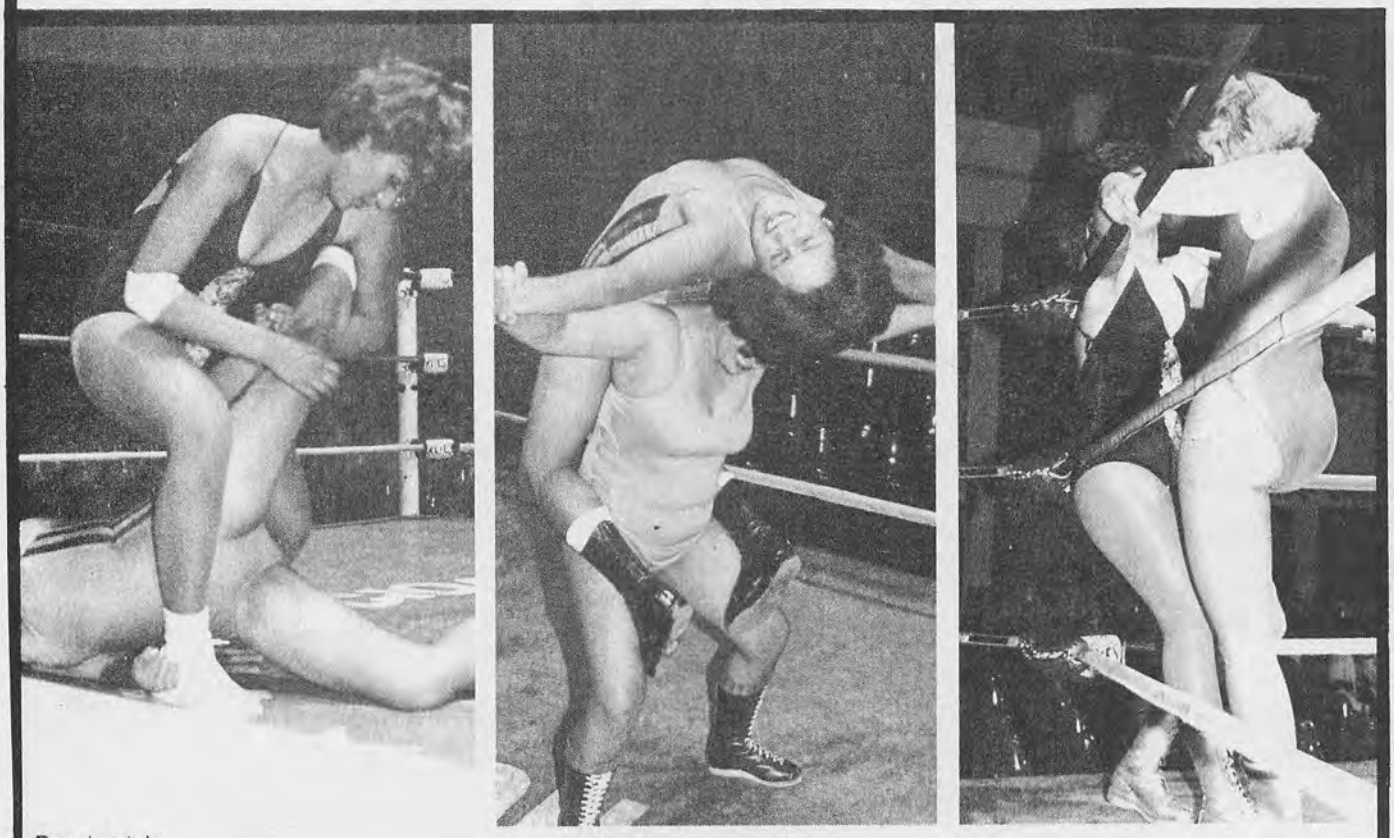
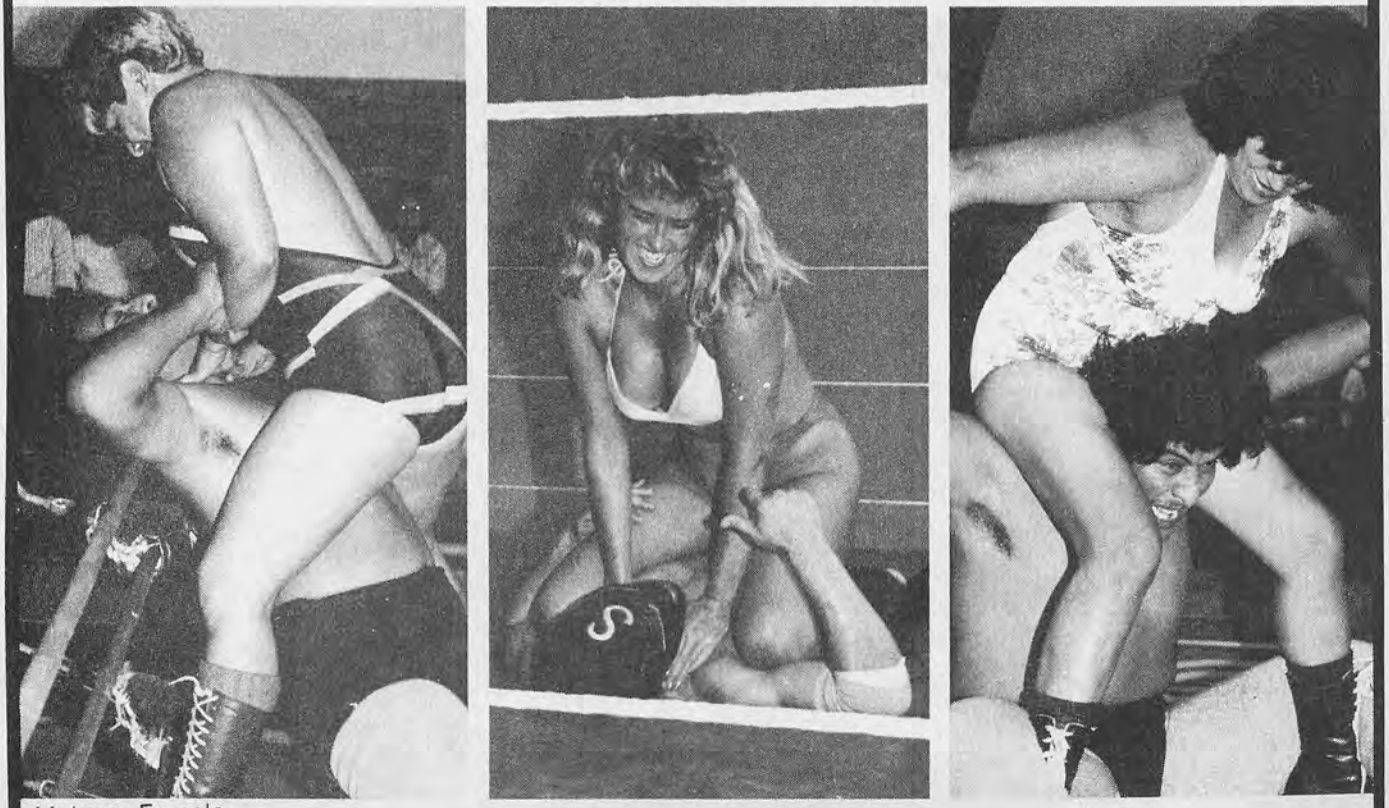
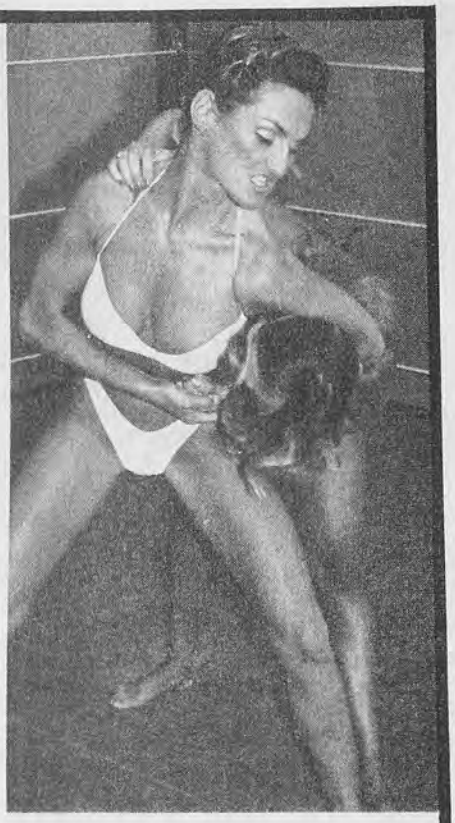


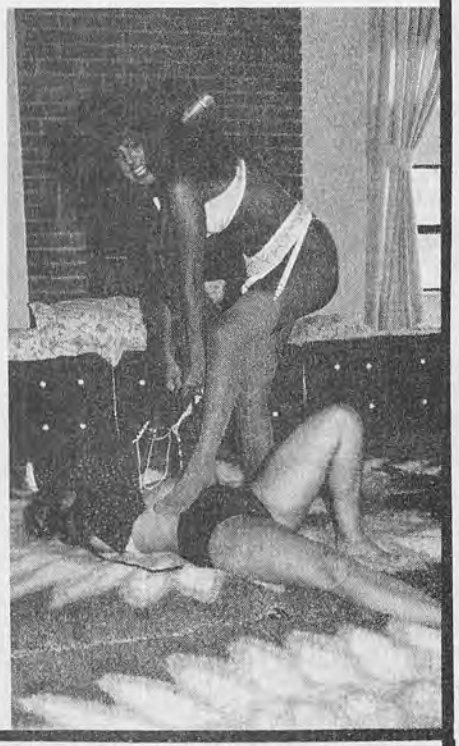
Pro Lady's



Male vs. Female



Bikini Matches



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RICHMOND WRESTLING REPORT: 9348 Telstar Rd., Richmond, Va 23237, .50 per issue. Yearly $6.00.

This is the bulletin that's affiliated with the WFIA. It keeps you up to date on the latest in a chatty and informal way. There's news, puzzles, features, photos and games. Back issues are available for .50¢. You can also get pencils, pins and buttons of your favorite wrestlers.

ONE ON ONE: Joe Grana ED. 258 Marlboro Rd, Old Bridge, NJ 08857 $1.75 per issue. 4 issues $7.00

This is supposed to be a weekly publication where the editors discuss wrestling in a one on one conversation. Kind of reads like a script for a play. We've only received two issues from the editor so far so let's wait a bit and see where this one goes.

PRO WRESTLING ENQUIRER: Harvey Cobb ED. 2619 Ruffin Way, Norfolk, Va 23504. $2.00 per issue. Yearly $12.00

Each bimonthly issue features eight pages of the latest news, rumors, mat results, inside stories and up to the minute information. There's a lot packed in the pages of this bulletin. It really gives you a behind the scenes look at all your favorite wrestlers. Highly recommended. Also, back issues are available for $3.00 each.

WOMAN WRESTLER: W.S. Johnson Publishing. Ste 221, 720-6th St. New Westminster B.C. Canada V3L 3C5. $5.00 U.S. Funds per issue. Yearly $25.00 U.S. Funds.

This is a bimonthly newsletter that covers all aspects of professional and amateur women's wrestling. Coverage is international. The first issue is clearly laid out and easy to read. The newsletters features stories on pros and upcoming amateurs and even has a challenge corner for those interested in wrestling tournaments. This is an interesting newsletter. with a specialized premise but the price is a bit steep.

WRESTLING CURRENT: M. Werth ED. PO Box 1147, Brenham, Tx 77833 .50¢ per issue. Published monthly.

A new bulletin to hit the scene that features news, stories and an editorial. It has a neat look to it and the editor says he hopes to expand coverage and generally improve with each issue. It's worth a look for the price.

WRESTLING WATCH: Gary Thompson ED. PO Box 515, Glen Dale, Md 20769 $1.60 per issue. Published monthly.

Here's a bulletin that keeps getting better and better with each issue. Up to the minute news and results are given for all the major promotions. Definitely worth looking into.

MAT MADNESS: Brain Cosgrove ED. 938½ Indiana Ave, Glassport, Pa 15045 $1.00 per issue. Yearly $5.50. Published bimonthly. The editor gives you seventeen pages of news, stories and results. There's also nostalgia, trivia and future predictions. This bulletin has a lot of potential. Looking forward to see in the next issue.

SQUARED CIRCLE OF TORONTO: Monica Watts ED. 1 Dean Park Rd. Apt 1115, Scarborough, Ont. Canada M1B 2W5. $2.00 per issue. Yearly $12.00 Published bimonthly.

Another new entry from Canada, this bulletin features news on Canadian wrestlers, as well as the WWF. There are also results and some pretty insightful stories. All in all, not a bad buy for the money.

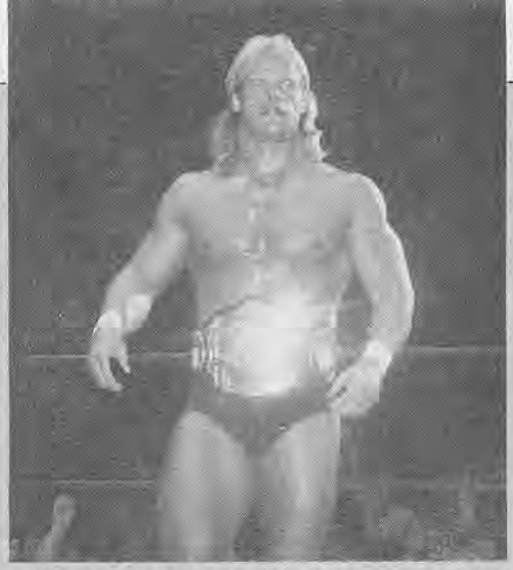
PINFALL: David Copeland ED. 2 Clifton Park Ct, Melrose, Ma 02176 $1.50 per issue. Published monthly.

This results oriented bulletin is really growing in leaps and bounds. Now, along with in depth results and analysis, there are feature stories and pretty clear photos as well. This one comes with the highest recommendation.

WRESTLING WIRE: Barbi Barker ED. 2019 Third Ave., New Brighton, Pa 15066. $1.60 per issue. Published monthly.

Here's a newsletter that's been

around for a long time. That alone has to tell you something about the quality of the newsletter. It's good. There are mostly results with some news and a letters page. Also, the editor is president of the Bret Hart Fan Club. Dues are $10.00 yearly. Write to her at the same address for more info about this dynamic wrestler.



*Bob Miller has great shots available. Write to him at PO Box 397, Nolanville, Tx 76559*

## CORRESPONDENCE

**JENNY OGILVIE**—55 Devonshire St, West Fottscray 3012, Victoria Australia would like to hear from fans of the WWF and other wrestlers. Will answer all letters.

**TINA WARREN**—Age 25, 237 Davis Ave, Northfield, NJ 08225 will answer all wrestling fans! Loves Robert Gibson, likes Barry, Mike Rotundo, Road Warriors, Ricky, Rick Martel and Dr. Death.

**RUSTY KEMP**—Age 17, 3526 Oak St, Laureldale, Pa 19605 would like to hear from fans of the Four Horsemen, Midnight Express, Ted DiBiase, Bam Bam Bigelow.

**SCOTT "BUCKY" LOVELADY**—Age 15, 2601 Norfolk St, Hopewell, Va 23860 would like to hear from fans of the Road Warriors, Midnight Rockers, Von Erichs, Barry Windham, the Fantastics, Rock 'n Roll Express, Freebirds and the Garvins. Will answer all letters.

**CYNDY LOVELADY**—Age 16, 2601 Norfolk St, Hopewell, Va 23860 would like to hear from fans of the Rock 'n Roll Express, the Fantastics, the Midnight Rockers, Larry Zbysko and Steve Simpson. Will answer all letters.

**TIM BRENCHER**—Age 18, PO Box 462, Bethlehem, Ct 06751 would like to hear from female fans who like any wrestler in any area of pro wrestling.

**PAUL CHRISTMAN**—68 West Goepp St, Bethlehem, Pa 18018 would like to hear from any fan of the WWF and GLOW.

**DAVID TOUGH**—216 E. Cardinal, Springfield Mo 65807 would like to hear from fans of Hulk Hogan, Steve Williams, Davey Boy Smith, Billy Graham, Dusty Rhodes, Ivan Putski, Superfly Snuka and the Road Warriors.

**DEANNE WIMBERLEY**—Rt 2 Box 345F, San Marcos, Tx 78666 would to hear from fans of any age who are fans of the Fantastics, Steve Simpson, the Von Erichs, Hulk Hogan, Dingo Warrior, Barry and Kendall Windham, Brutus Beefcake and Rick Martel.

**SHANNON CREWS**—220 8th St Apt A-12, Vinton Va 24179 would like to hear from fans of the Rock 'n Roll Express (especially Robert Gibson), Magnum TA, the Fantastics and Ric Flair.

**JOANN MUNOZ**—447 S. Schutz #112, El Paso, Tx 79907 would like to hear from anyone who is a fan of Steve and Shaun Simpson, the Von Erichs, Matt Borne, Dingo Warrior, Ricky Steamboat, Michael Hayes, the Fantastics, Chris Adams, Steve Williams, Jake Roberts, "Hacksaw" Jim Duggan, Hulk Hogan, Paul Orndorff, Tito Santana, the British Bulldogs, the Rock 'n Roll Express, the Rock 'n Roll RPMs and Barry Windham.

**AMANDA CRUZ**—504 S. Oregon, El Paso, Tx 79901 would like to hear from anyone who likes Steve Simpson, Kerry Von Erich, Dingo Warriors, Lex Luger, Ricky Morton, the Fantastics and the Midnight Rockers.

**VERO MUNOZ**—Age 14, 447 S. Schutz #112, El Paso, Tx 79907 would like to hear from anyone who is a fan of the Fantastics, the Von Erichs, Steve Simpson, Dingo Warrior, Jake Roberts, Dr Death Steve Williams, Chris Adams, the Freebirds, Matt Borne, Ricky Steamboat, Magnum TA and Hulk Hogan. Will answer all letters.

**MICHAEL SMITH**—Age 12, Box 237, The Pas, Mb Canada R9A 1K4 would like to hear from fans of the one and only Ric Flair. He also has pin ups of wrestlers. Send a S.A.S.E. for price list.

**JOHN BINDER**—Age 14, 9474 Washington Ave, Marshfield, Wisconsin 54449 would like to hear from all AWA fans.

**TONY MENDOZA**—Age 13, 2204 Dupre Dr. Ceres, Ca 95307 would like to hear from fans of Randy Savage, Ken Patera and Wendi Richter.

**STANLEY K. BOWLING**—Age 34, PO Box 15, Dayton, Ky 41074 would like to hear from females that are into watching wrestling from all parts of the country.

**MICHAEL McNEILS**—Age 11, 7419 Loretto Ave, Phila, Pa 19111 would like to hear from fans of the Hart Foundation, the Four Horsemen and the Superpowers. Will reply to all letters.

**MARK DiVENTURA**—Box 121 RD5 Blue Anchor, Hammonton, NJ 08037 likes the New Breed, the Road Warriors and the Four Horsemen. Will reply to all letters.

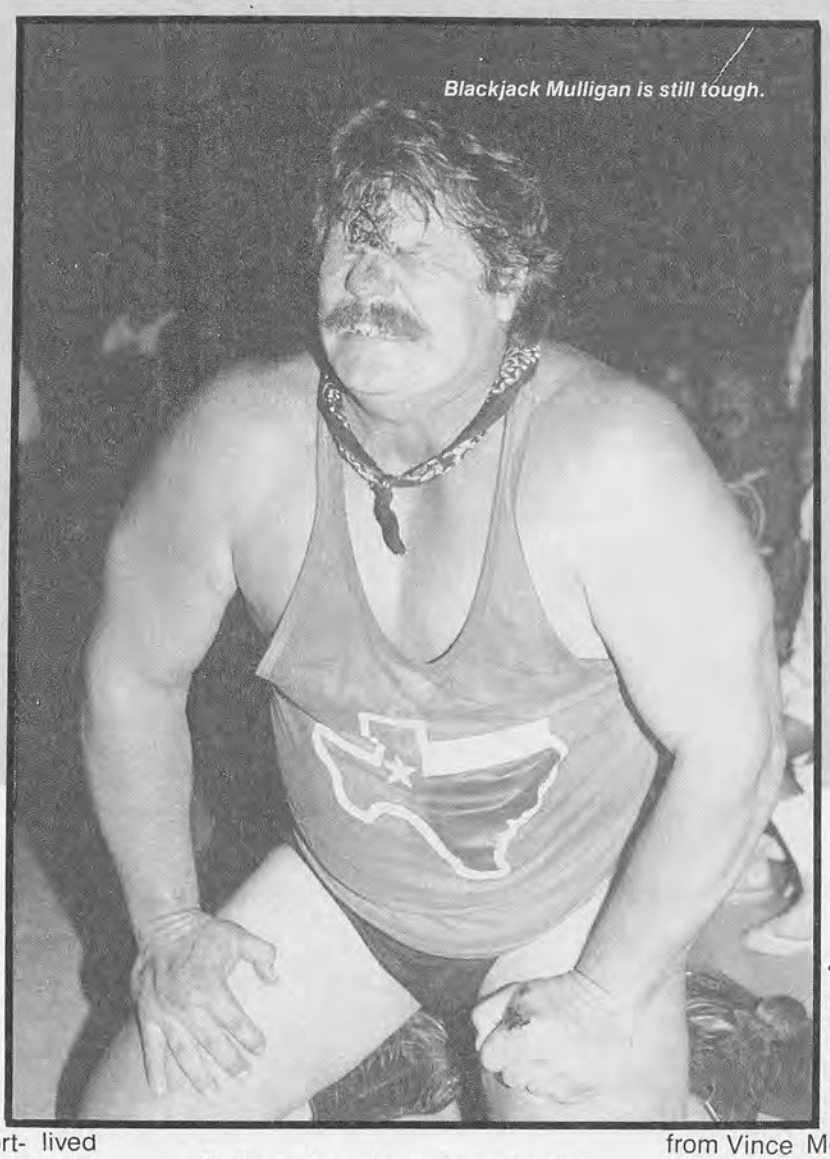
**ALICE BOERGER**—Age 19 RR #1 Box 139, Jackson, Mo 65260 would like to hear from fans of Roddy Piper, Ricky Steamboat, Hart Foundation, British Bulldogs.

**KERRI DRANSFIELD**—Age 17 6014 190th Ave Ct E, Summer, Wa 98390 would like to hear from fans of the Rock 'n Roll Express, Barry Windham, the Garvins, Nikita Koloff and Lex Luger.

**MICHELE PARRISH**—Age 15, 1508-B Quail Ridge Rd, Raleigh, N.C. 27609 would love to hear from any wrestling fan.

**SHELLY HOGUE**—Age 16, 980 Ohio St, Chico, Ca 95928 would like to hear from anyone who loves Danny Davis as much as she does. Other favorites include: The Harts, Honky Tonk Man, Hercules and Poddy Piper.

# BLACKJACK MULLIGAN



*Blackjack Mulligan is still tough.*

During his many years inside professional wrestling rings, Blackjack Mulligan has seen it all. The so-called stars, the fads, the short- lived gimmicks, the wrestlers who couldn't handle the pressure of daily competition. Mulligan has remained as a constant in this ever-changing business, and along the way, has won many titles, and many fans.

These days, Blackjack is taking things a little slower. He is now able to pick his spots, working where he wishes, and doesn't have to follow the grueling pace he set for himself for many years. He now spends more time watching the careers of his sons, Barry and Kendall Windham, and recently has been seen in Florida rings once again.

Always outspoken and sometimes controversial, Blackjack Mulligan has always been known for doing what he says he will do. Throughout his career, he has moved back and forth from rule-breaker to fan favorite many times, depending on the situation. Last year, he entered the World Wrestling Federation as one of the infamous "Machines", along with Andre the Giant and Bill "Masked Superstar" Eadie. Following the Machine breakup, Blackjack worked under his own name for a time, then vanished from the W.W.F.

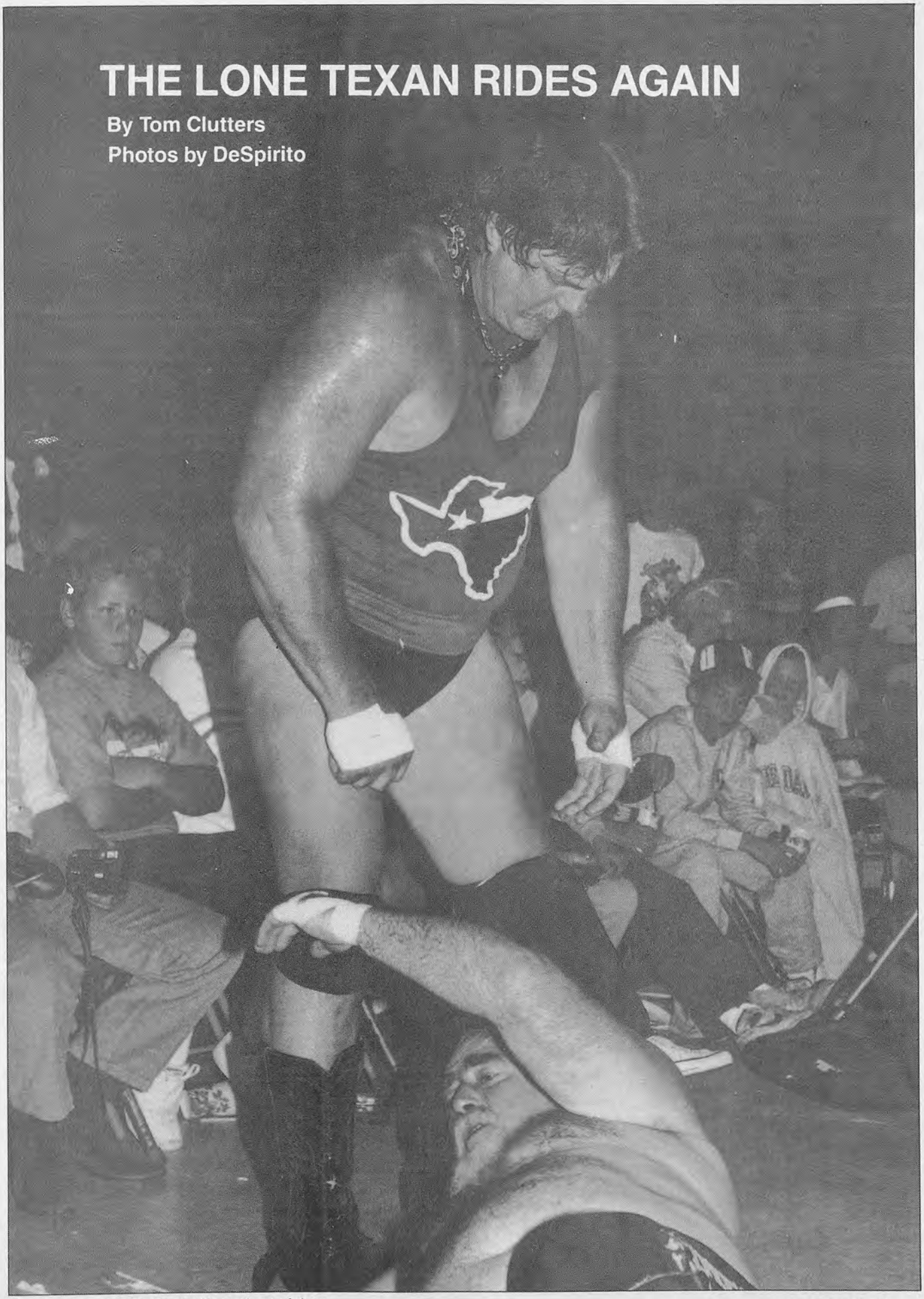
It wasn't the first appearance in the WWF for Mulligan, who, along with Blackjack Lanza, held the WWF tag titles in the 70s. However, this latest WWF sojourn was probably his most rewarding financially. In addition to the substantial salary he was earning from Vince McMahon, Mulligan also won a couple of $50,000 battle royals before departing. Admittedly, Blackjack Mulligan will never have money worries for the rest of his life. But the desire for competition still burns strong, and probably always will.

We recently solicited some opinions from this wrestling legend on a number of topics.

**On life as he now lives it:** "I guess you might say I've got it made. If I don't wanna rassle, I don't have to. I've got everything I need. Security, I guess you'd call it. But listen, buddy, I could still get in the ring 365 nights a year if I wanted to. I've heard so many of these crybabies whinin' about how tough it is. Hell, when I started out,

# THE LONE TEXAN RIDES AGAIN

By Tom Clutters
Photos by DeSpirito



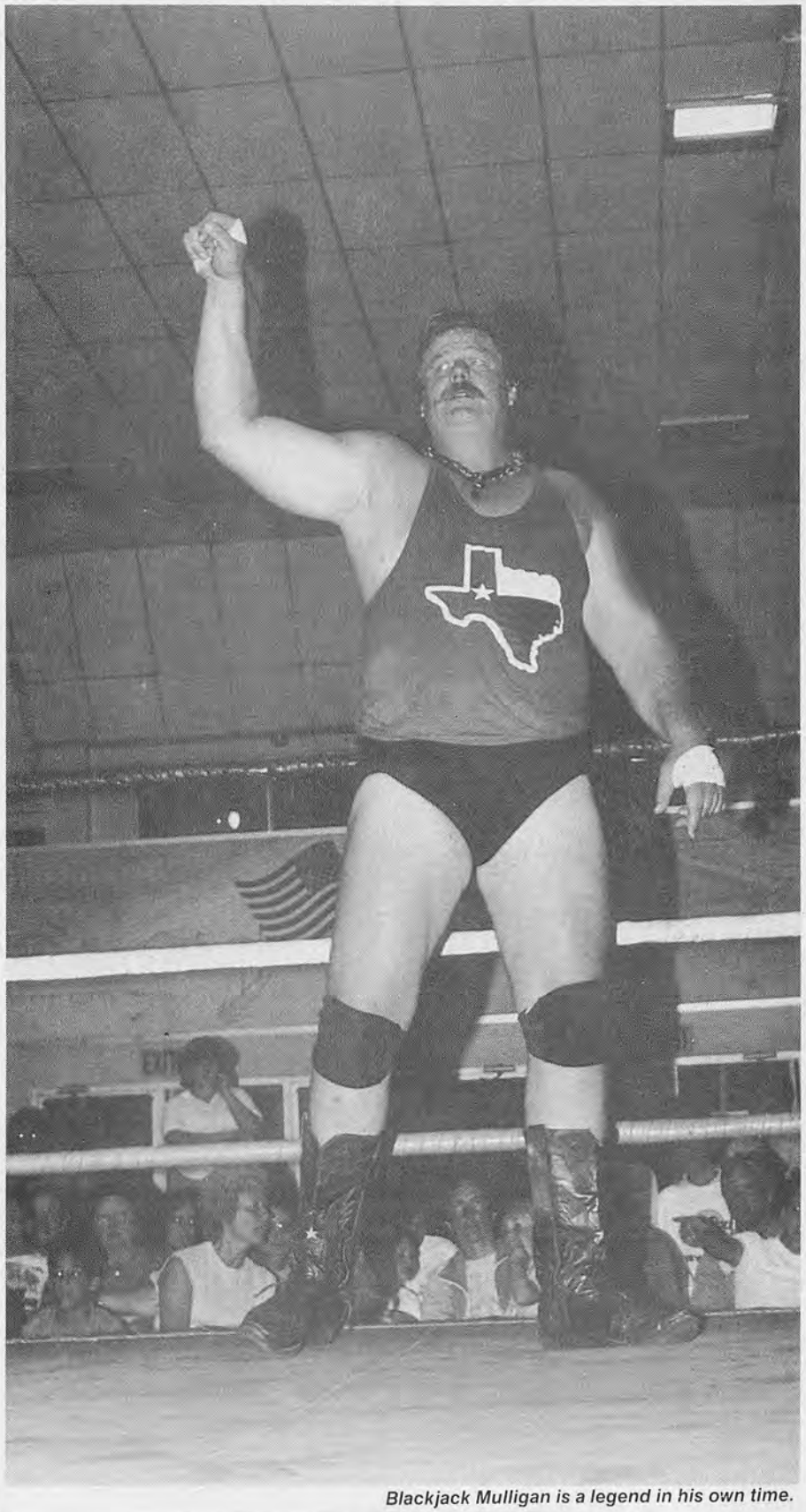
*Blackjack can battle it out with the best of them.*

you couldn't afford to fly everywhere. You drove from town to town, sometimes all night. You'd rassle maybe three or four straight nights with only a couple hours sleep. I'm glad I don't have to listen to that trash as much anymore."

**On his family:** "I enjoy havin' time to keep up with my boys. Barry's a top contender for all the major titles, and Kendall's comin' along great. He doesn't have all that much experience yet, but he's gettin' better every time he crawls into the ring. He's been working more with Barry in tag matches, and that'll help. Barry had a lot of trouble when he first started by bein' the son of Blackjack Mulligan, but he's made a name all for himself with a lot of hard work. Kendall most likely won't have that kinda trouble, but he'll have to keep workin' to prove that he's more than just Barry's little brother."

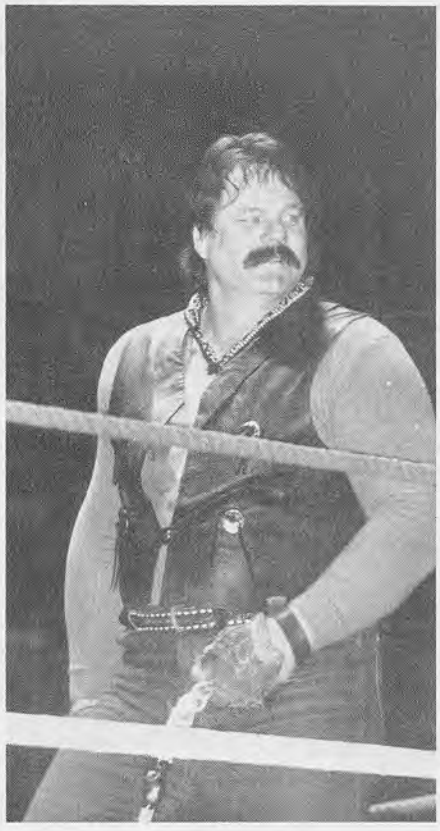
**On the recent happenings in his career:** "I've been everywhere and done just about everything. In the past couple years, I've concentrated mostly on Texas, the WWF, and Florida. When I went down to work for Fritz Von Erich, me and him had a little disagreement about how I was doin' things. You know, the World Class bunch has a certain way of goin' about their business, and I never understood it. When the WWF contacted me about workin' for them under a mask, I didn't want to at first. But we went ahead, and after that 'Machine' business was finished, they let me use my own name for a while. But they seemed to think I wasn't flashy enough. I've never been flashy, and couldn't do it t heir way, so I just left. Now, I'm workin' back down in Florida, havin' a good time, and keepin' in touch with my boys. I also get some independent shows now and then, but I don't do too much of that anymore."

**On his friends and foes over**



*Blackjack Mulligan is a legend in his own time.*

*Mulligan, clad in bunkhouse gear is a classic.*



*Here, Blackjack talks with his good friend Johnny Rodz.*

*The man is a veteran of the squared circle.*

*Mulligan is loved by fans worldwide.*

**the years:** "The best partner I ever had was Jack Lanza. We worked together for a long time as the Blackjacks, and we did pretty good. I still keep in touch with Jack, and he's still rasslin' a little. Maybe one of these days we'll get back together, who knows? I've had a lot of tough opponents. Kevin Sullivan is one tough hombre I can think of right off. I'll tell ya, with all that devil worship and mumbo jumbo stuff he spit out, he was a hard case, 'cause no matter how much he talked, he was still a tough man in the ring. You never knew what he was gonna do. From what I understand, he's gettin' himself straightened out now, and that's good. Another guy I had a lot of trouble with was Sgt. Slaughter. I guess it was natural that we'd collide, since we're both ex-Marines and all. I'd never really had much to do with Slaughter before the promoters started puttin' us against each other night after night. After a while, it got personal. I didn't like him, and he didn't like me. We spilled a lot of blood durin' that time. Maybe I finally put the Sarge on the right track. I've also had a go-around or two with Dusty Rhodes, but now Dusty's one of my closest friends. Me an' John Studd had some tussles too that were downright nasty. He was workin' in the WWF while I was there, but he's kinda disappeared now."

**On the state of wrestling now:** "I'll tell ya. I've seen a lot of guys come and go in the business, but right now, there's so many good ones. I don't like him, but Ric Flair's a great champion. Guys like Randy Savage use a lot of flash and stuff, but they're good. Hulk Hogan gets a lot of flack for bein' more of a TV star than a rassler, but Hulk works hard, and does a lot for the kids and the handicapped. I think than when me and some of the other old-timers retire, whenever that is, our sport will get along OK."

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I really love the Rock 'n Roll Express and I'm sick of hearing people put them down all the time. So all you wimps and pretty boys who are always putting them down, sit back and take a good look because they're the world tag team champs, not Tully and Arn and not the Road Warriors. So remember to be the best, you have to beat the best and that's going to be hard to do, even for the Warriors.

Denise Manganello
Phila, Pa

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

As a rule, I don't like to belabor the obvious, but as a fan I must add my voice to the chorus of those who cry for the salvation of the American Wrestling Association.

It's decline was entirely unanticipated. In fact, a mere five years ago it seemed poised to take the lead among its competitors in terms of recognition and popularity, and even in 1985 it was still a viable threat to McMahon's scheme for WWF domination. But a sudden defection of its top wrestlers to other promotions, as well as chief promoter and former champ Verne Gagne's steadfast refusal to "update" the AWA into a more youth oriented package spelled disaster for the Association.

If the AWA is to survive it must make drastic changes. It most cut loose many of the mediocre wrestlers and replace them with better known competitors. Men such as Ricky Steamboat, Sgt Slaughter, Ox Baker and David Schultz would revitalize the organization. How long will it be before Wahoo McDaniel, Tommy Rich and Jimmy Snuka move on to greener pastures?

The AWA must completely revamp its television programs. Commentator Larry Nelson, while a likeable sort, lacks the ability to hold our attention between matches and ex champ Nick Bockwinkel is a surprisingly non opinionated color commentator...a serious defect. The "Superstars" show also boast the silliest, most unimpressive set design in wrestling, bar none! Perhaps the floundering cable program should showcase classic matches instead of new matches.

Bruce Mayer

Hi Guys!

Love your magazine! The WWF is hard to take serious these days. With the amount of talent these boys have bought with their multis, you'd expect more. I don't really care about who Beefcake learns how to cut hair from or what the Bulldogs say about pet care. Let's see some WRESTLING! Remember when you has Snuka, Putski, Slaughter Etc. We saw Outback Jack for eons "he's coming"... what a letdown, and now Ted DiBiase (so lets see him wrestle already). If you blink several times wrestlers change sides: the Islanders, Jake the Snake, Honky Tonk (started out good but nobody cared, same with the Islanders), Macho Man and now Orndorff. If Paul Orndorff makes up with Hulk Hogan I give up! Oh, a word about Hogan Zzzzzz. Sorry, I remember when the WWF was great, now they just make money. I'll stick with the NWA and smaller less glitzy promotions that deal with wrestling.

Sandy Doran
New London, Ct

Dear Editor,

I want to talk about drugs in wrestling. You have drug tests in baseball, football and other professional sports. But what about wrestling? NO!! There should be drug tests in wrestling because two wrestlers have already been arrested, namely the Iron Sheik and Hacksaw Jim Duggan. I really agree with your editorial in the Sept 1987 issue. If you fans would share your thoughts about this, write me. I'd love to hear from you.

Allen Bennett
1632 Marlwood Cir
Charlotte, NC 28212

Dear Editor,

The WRESTLING EYE is a great magazine, but I know that I didn't have to say it, because the world knows that.

I have a question for you. That question is: Why was Gordon Solie replaced by Steve Keirn on the CWF TV program?

Thanks,
Scott Glicker

*ED NOTE: When Crockett promotions took over the Florida area, Solie was out and Keirn was in.*

## Send all letters to: Wrestling Eye, Jems Inc., P.O. Box 138, Marlboro, NJ 07746 Att: Editor

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I have been a wrestling fan since the beginning of the summer. My favorite WWF manager is Bobby "the Brain" Heenan. My favorite WWF wrestlers are Dino Bravo and Brutus Beefcake, but Ted DiBiase is disgusting. I have no use for him. Anyone who would pay people to prove everyone has a price is lower than low. He should be horsewhipped. I hope someone, including Gorilla Monsoon and Bobby Heenan do it on TV. I would do it given the chance.

Sheila Collins
Arcadia, Ca

Dear Editor,

WRESTLING EYE is a great magazine. My favorite wrestler is Jake "the Snake" Roberts. I live in Brooklyn, NY and never miss a WWF match on TV. Here is a tribute to the Snake:

Jake "the Snake" Roberts is a devastating man with his two best maneuvers, he'll put you in a jam.

First, with a powerful clothesline that can put you down for the one, two three

But instead he follows it up with an awesome DDT.

Benjy Bettler
Brooklyn, NY

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

First of all, I'd like to compliment you on your magazine. I buy it every chance I get. It has terrific articles and features. I especially enjoyed the Nostalgia Corner on Robert Gibson's first match. (Nov 87) It's not very often you get to see a picture or his name mentioned without Ricky's. Keep up the terrific articles on Robert and the R 'n R Express.

Tina Collins
Morrisvalle, WV

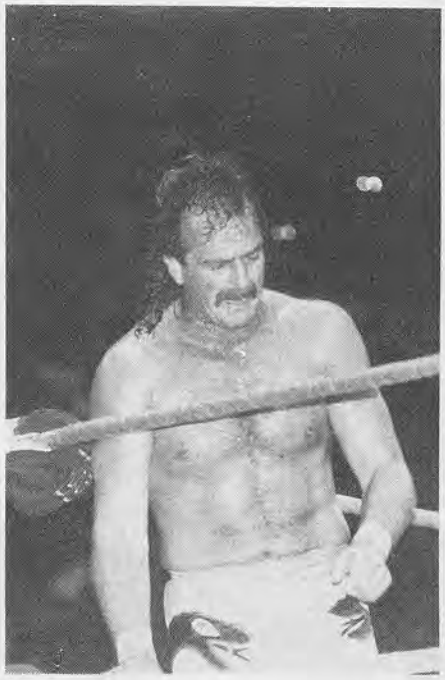
Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I am tired of reading negative things about "rulebreakers." My favorite tag team is the Hart Foundation, and my favorite single is Hercules. My favorites are constantly put down for breaking the rules. But is it different when a "good guy" cheats or is disqualified? I think not.

Many ignorant souls defend Hulk Hogan. "If he's not a good wrestler why is he still champion?" they ask. I have the answer. It's because he rarely wrestles, and when he does it's usually not against a top contender. Also, whenever he's in trouble, he's counted out. Is this accidental? I think not.

These so called good guys have no backbone whatsoever. They're wimpy. All they care about is fan support. The "rulebreakers," however, are not afraid to be different. They do not need fan support and they have guts.

Sandy "Snakey" Lewis
Battle Creek, Mi

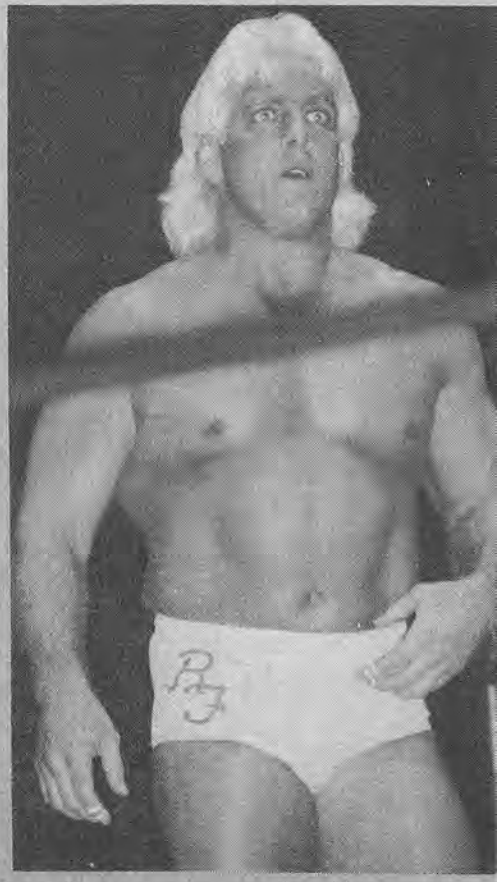


Dear Editor,

The Emmy awards were televised recently and I believe they missed some.

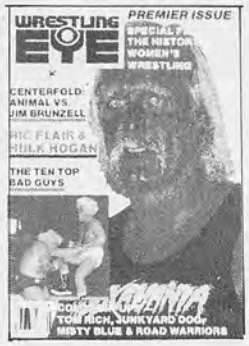
One in particular should have gone to Ric Flair for the "Wide World of Wrestling" program with Flair and Ole Anderson "doing battle" and later on, the Ric Flair "monologue." I think that particular show was great. If anyone should have won an award, Flair should have. That look on his face was fantastic.

Eugene Bauer
Falls Chuch, Va



*Slick Ric should have been nominated for an emmy.*

# IS YOUR COLLEC

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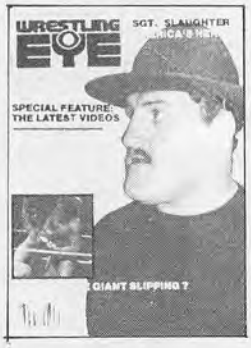


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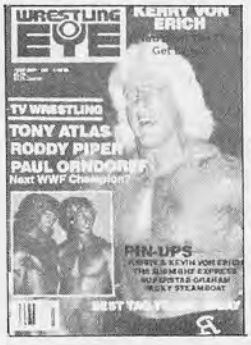


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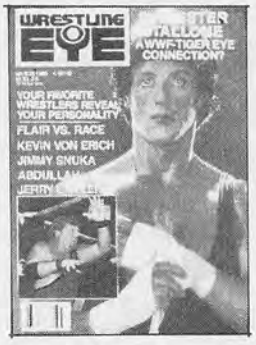


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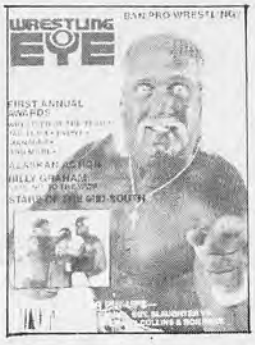


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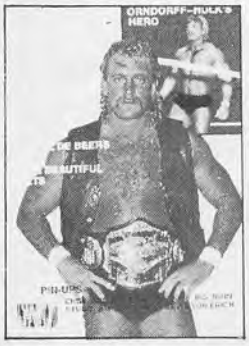


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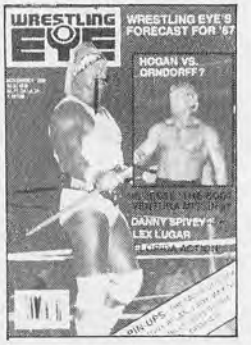


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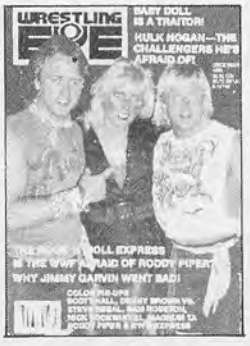


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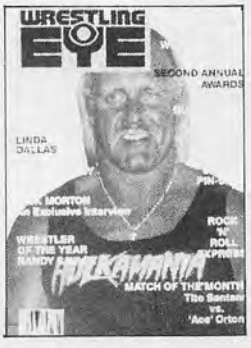


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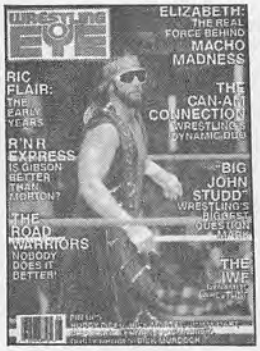


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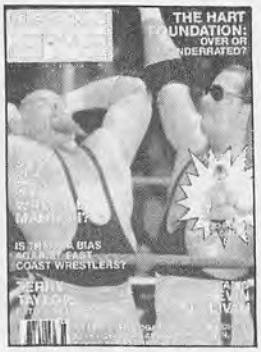


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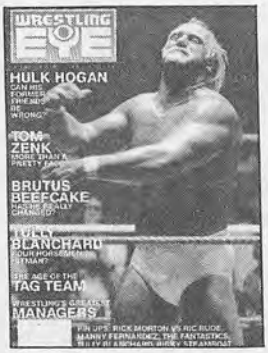


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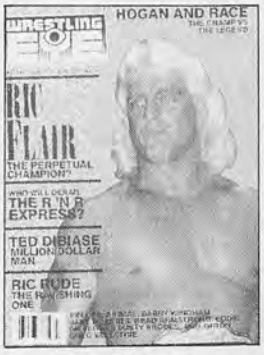


DEC 87

# COMING NEXT MONTH: 1988 ALL STAR COLOR CALENDER

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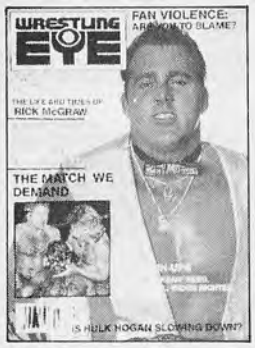


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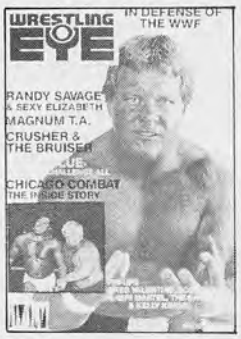


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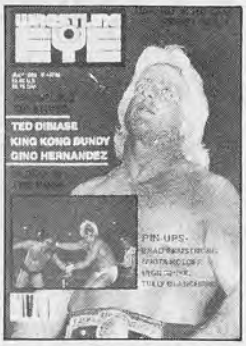
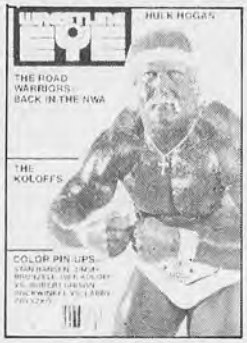



JULY 86




AUG 86

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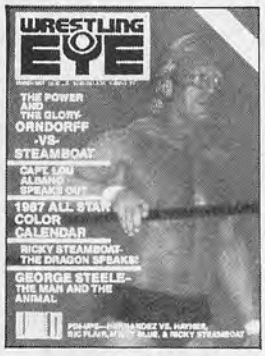


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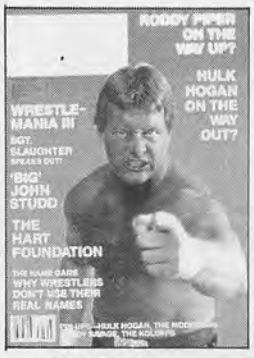


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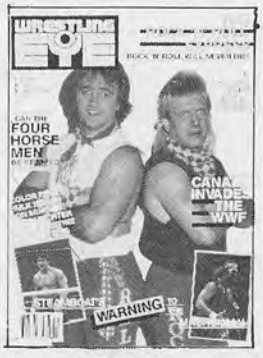


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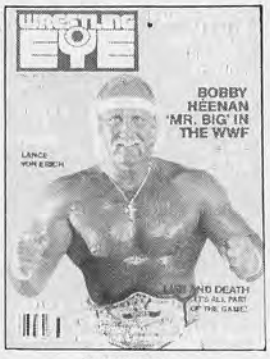
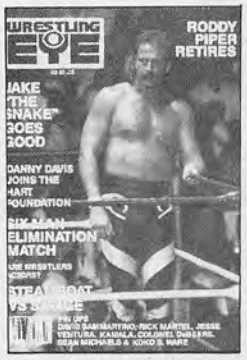



JUNE 87




JULY 87

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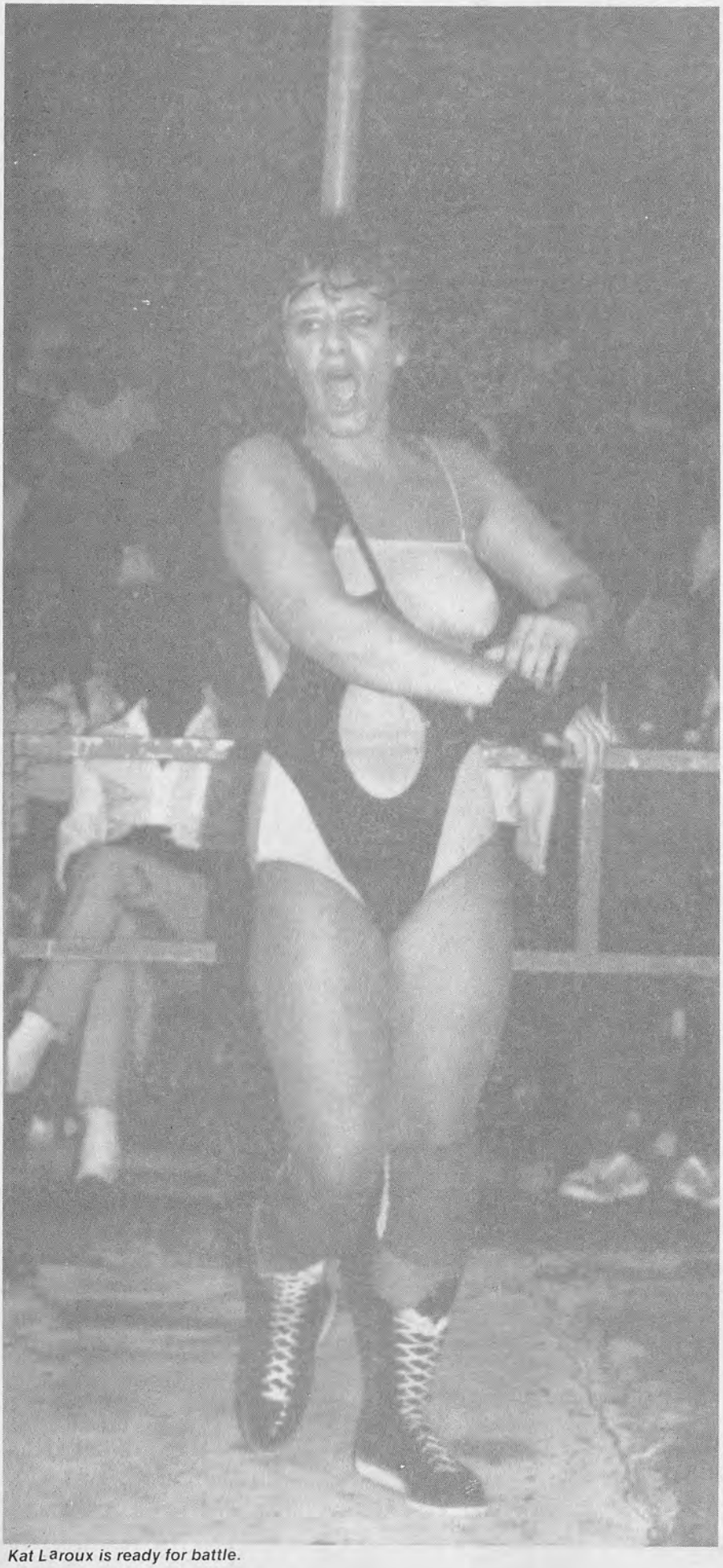
# WRESTLING EYE PIN UP

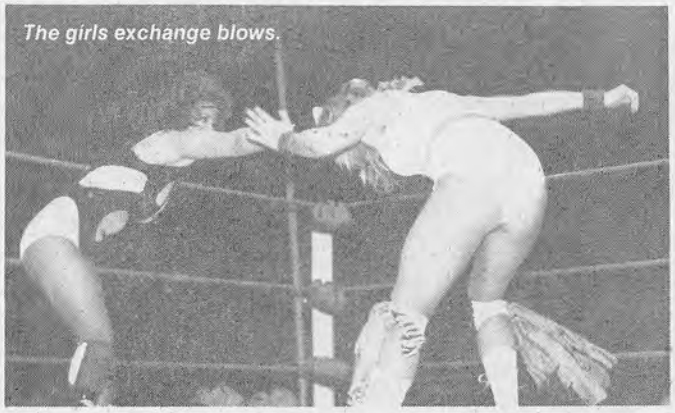
## RIC FLAIR



Kat Laroux is ready for battle.

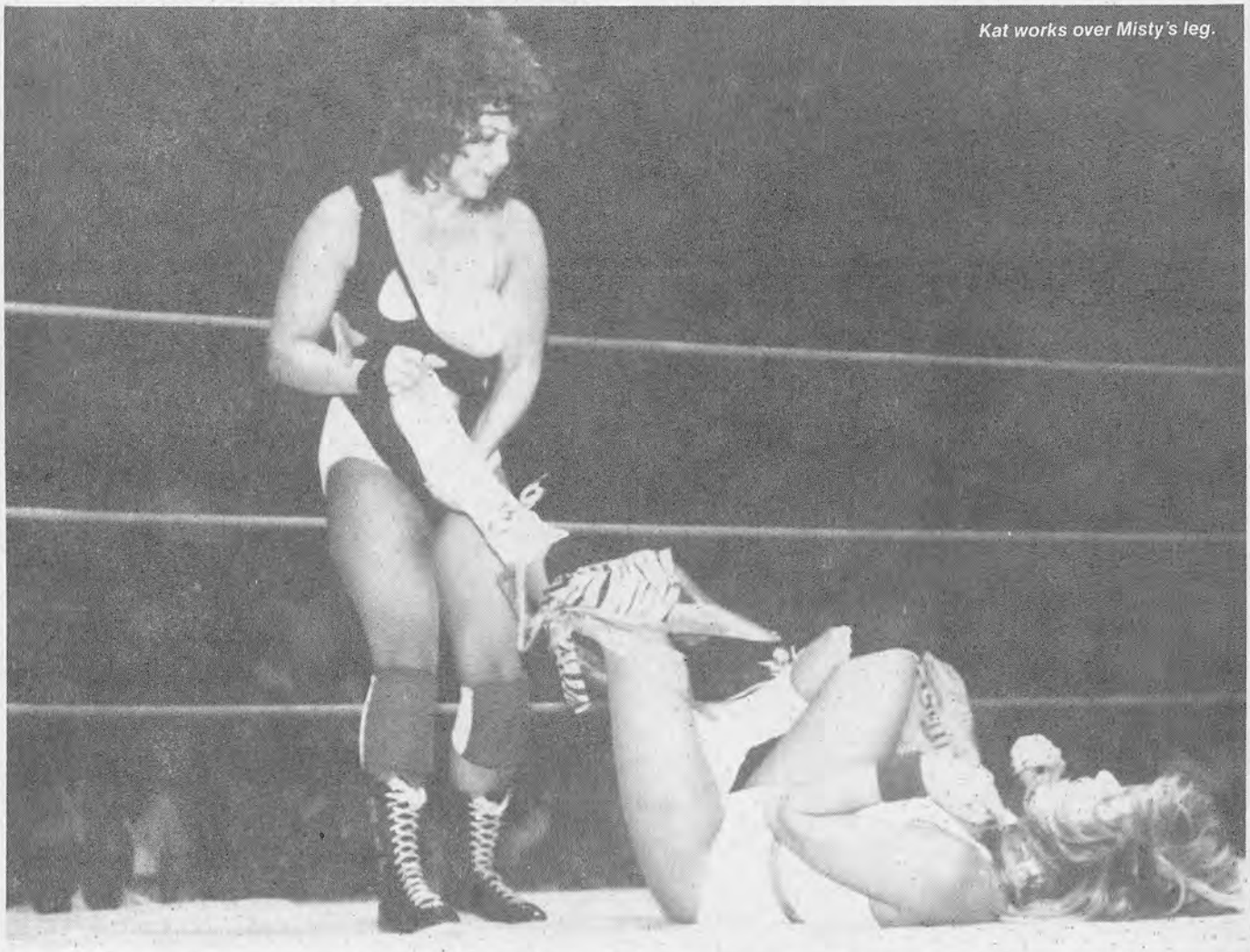
# RIVALRY INSIDE THE ROPES

## MISTY BLUE VS KAT LAROUX

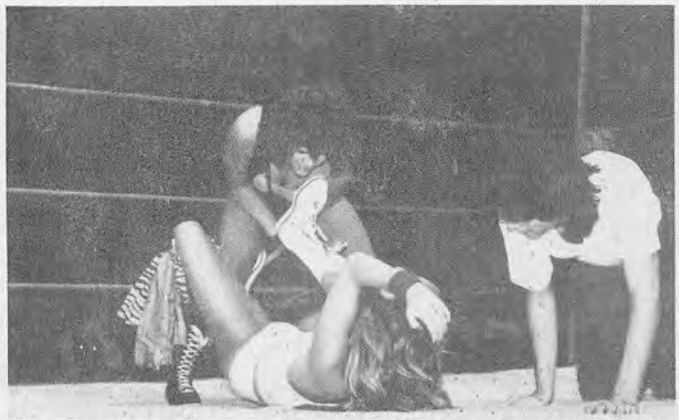


The girls exchange blows.

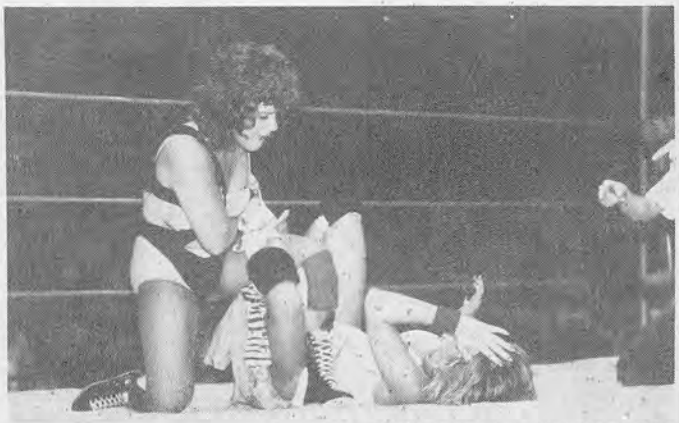
Kat has Misty on the ropes.



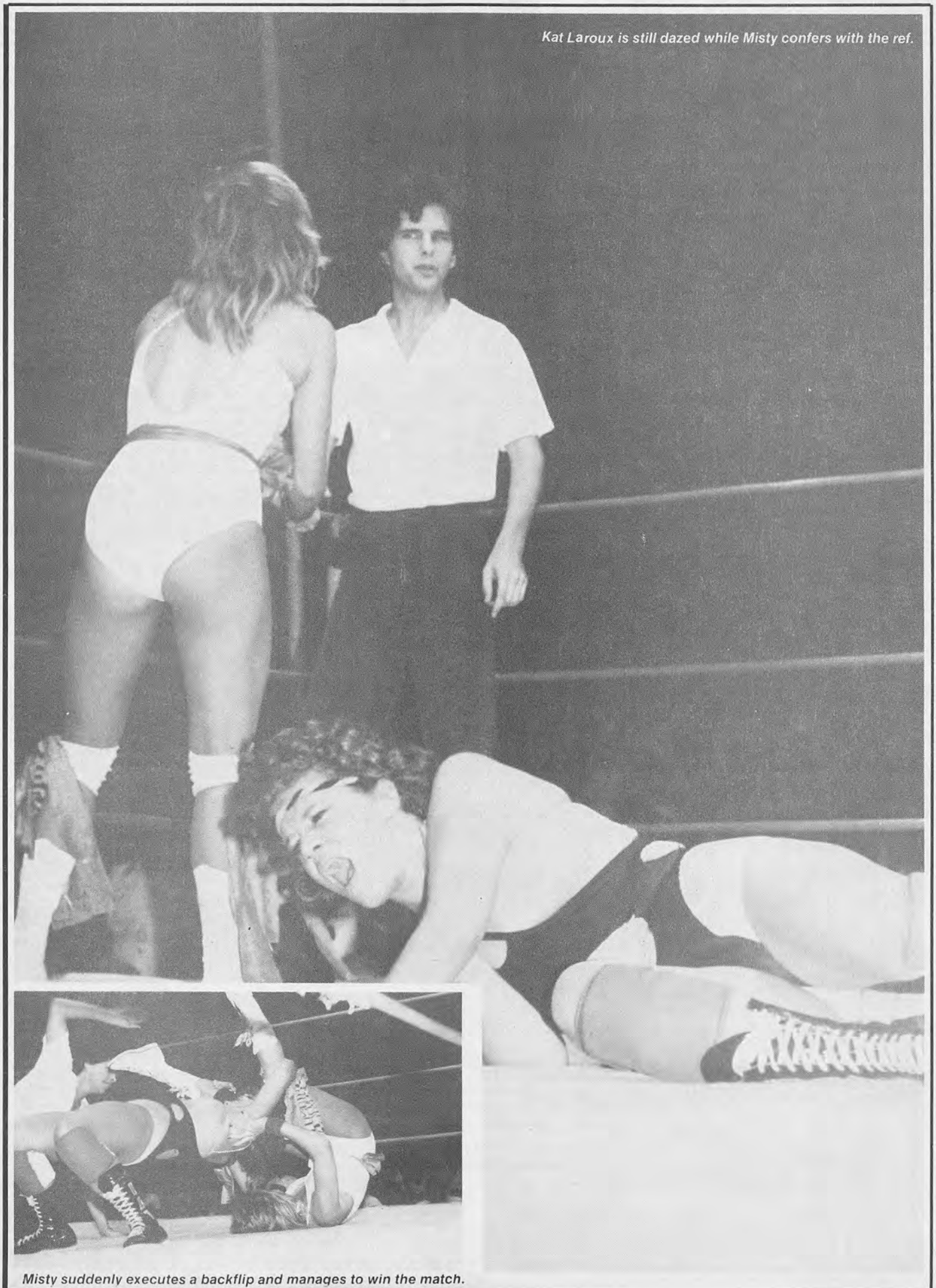
Kat works over Misty's leg.



The ref watches closely to make sure Misty's leg isn't broken by Kat.



It looks like its a sure victory for Kat



*Kat Laroux is still dazed while Misty confers with the ref.*

*Misty suddenly executes a backflip and manages to win the match.*

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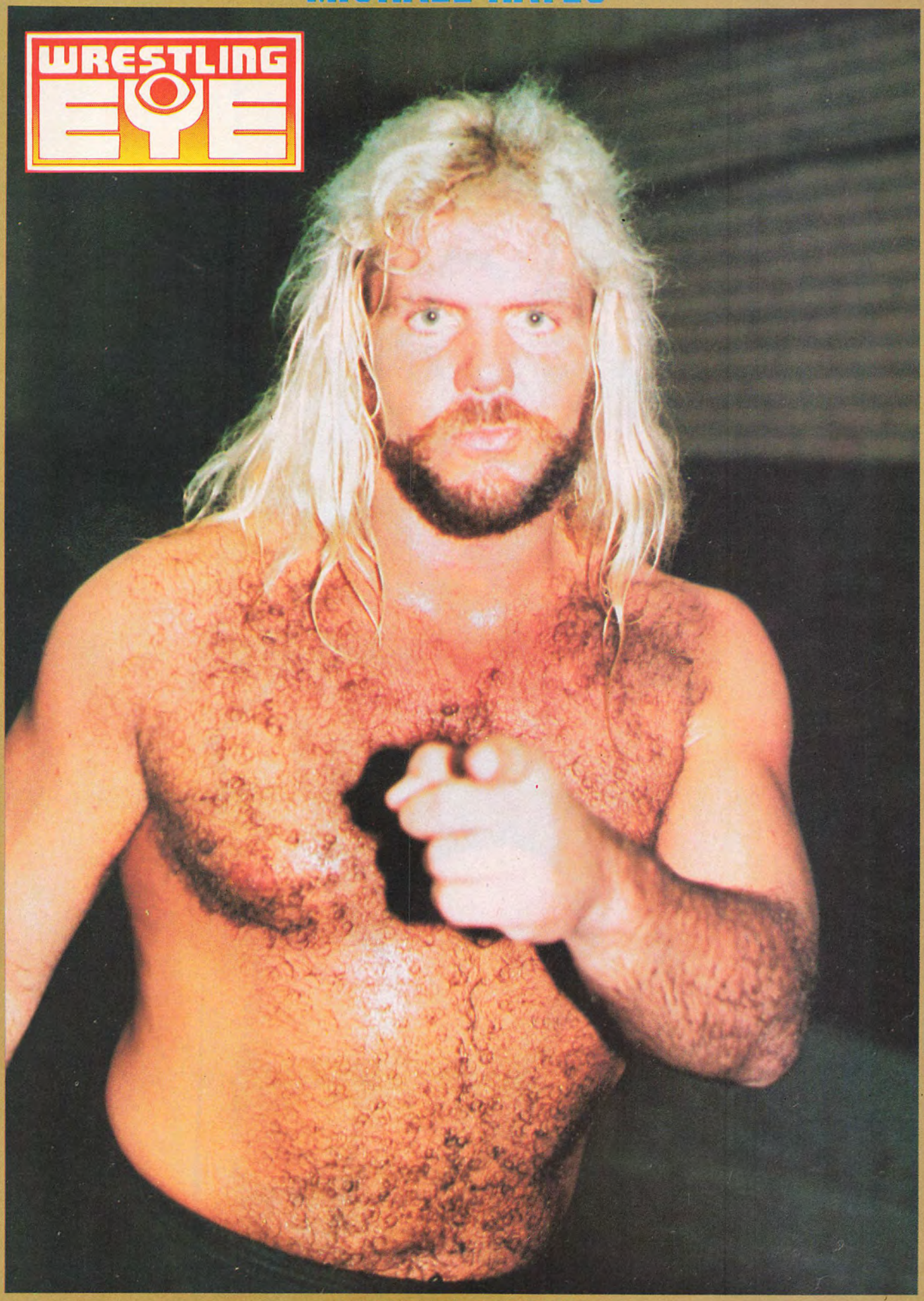


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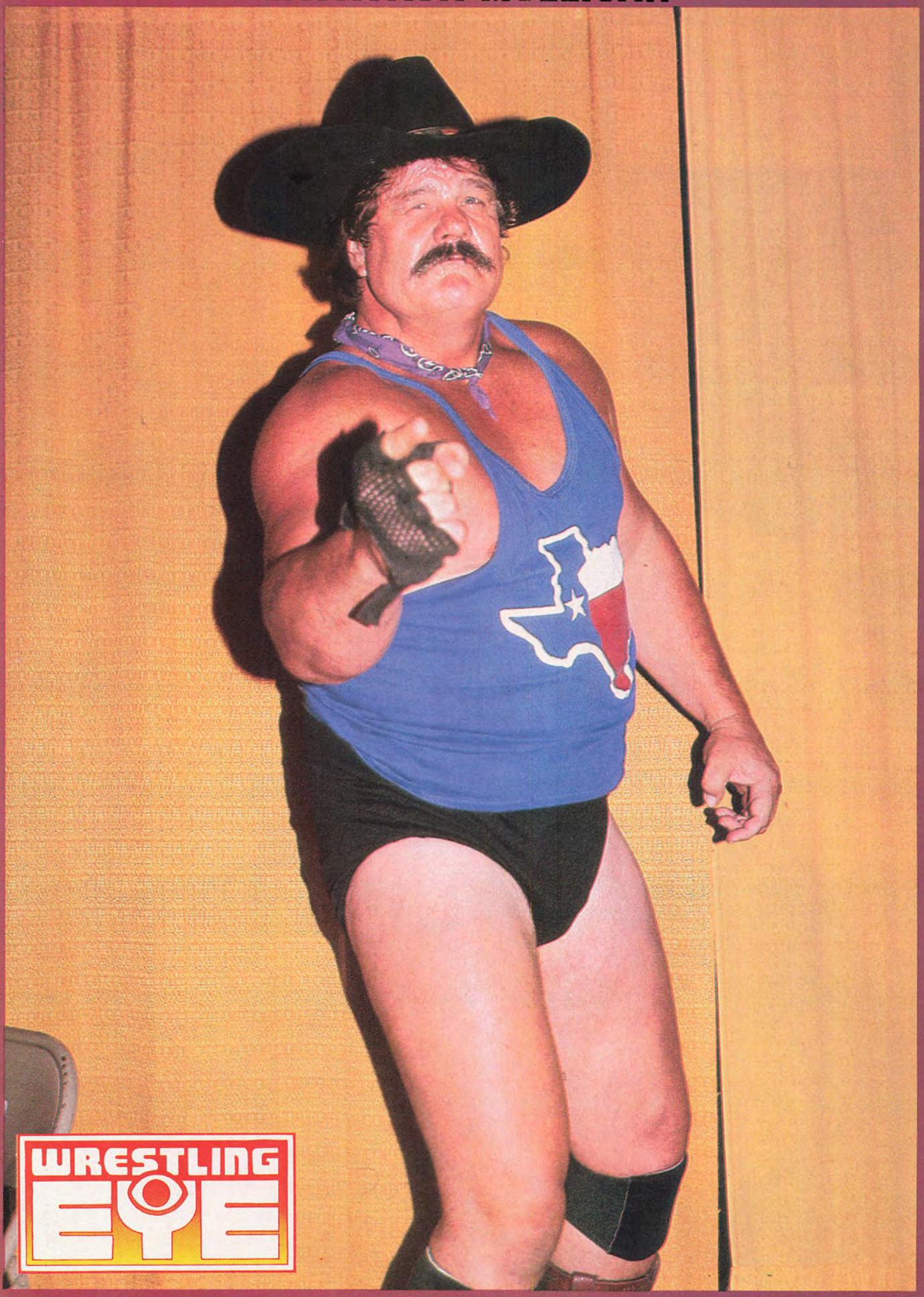
# BLACKJACK MULLIGAN



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